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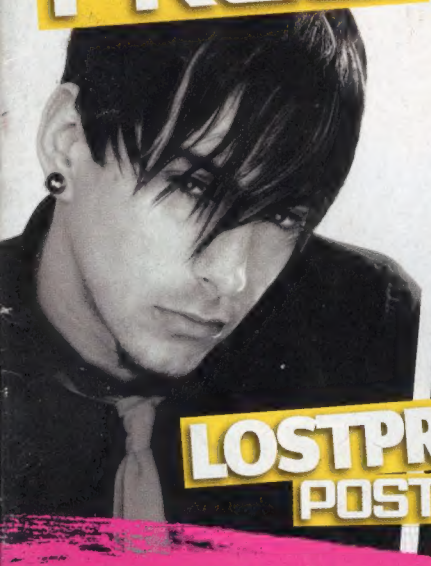

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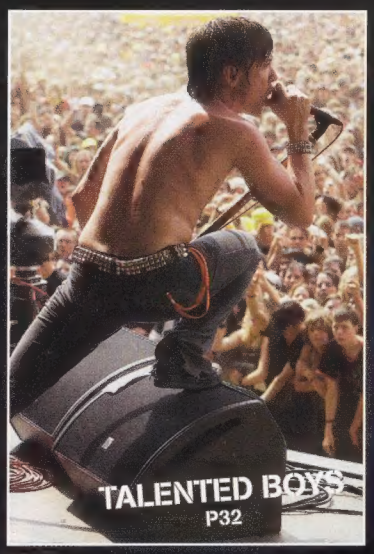
CONTENTS

ISSUE 1116 • 15.07.2006

THE KERRANG!
Awards may be six long, long weeks away, but to be quite honest with you, we can hardly contain our excitement. And, judging by the squillions of votes being cast on our MySpace profile for the best British New-comer award, it seems that you lot can't either! But fear not, folks, we've got a respite in the form of the K! Day Of Rock on August 10, and this year's line-up is probably the strongest yet! Turn to page 6 to find out who's playing... Now, which one of you lucky, lucky people will win a table at the K! Awards for you and nine of your mates?

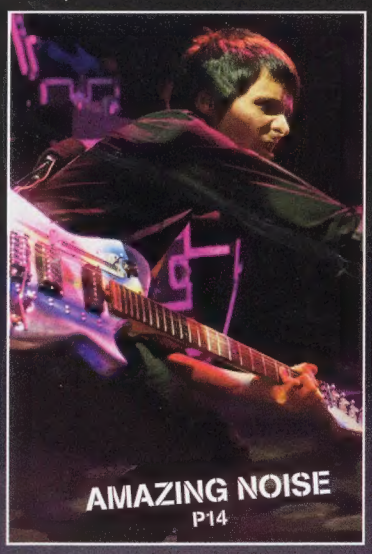
Dan

DEPUTY EDITOR



TALENTED BOYS
P32

CLASSIC RIFFS
P42



AMAZING NOISE
P14

OLD DOG, NEW TRICKS
P26

THIS WEEK

FEEDBACK
04 ANGELS AND AIRWAVES, TOOL, PETE WENTZ' COCK...

BREAKER
06 THE K! DAY OF ROCK
08 DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL
10 WE ARE SCIENTISTS
12 SCANNER / PANDORA

RATED: LIVE
14 MUSE
16 UNHOLY ALLIANCE
17 THE BLACK DAHLIA MURDER
18 ALICE IN CHAINS

FEATURES
20 AFI
26 TAKING BACK SUNDAY VS ANGELS AND AIRWAVES
32 BILLY TALENT
42 THE ANSWER
44 UNDEROATH

K! ICONS
35 LOSTPROPHETS POSTER SPECIAL

RATED
46 STRAPPING YOUNG LAD
48 PEEPING TOM
49 WINNEBAGO DEAL
51 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST (FILM)

WHERE TO START WITH
52 THE DWARVES

VOLUME
57 GUNS N'ROSES
60 YOUR WEEK PLANNER
62 GET BOOKING

THE SONGS THAT CHANGED MY LIFE
70 SONNY MOORE (FROM FIRST TO LAST)

Cover photo: Dave Willis Contents photo: Justin Borucki

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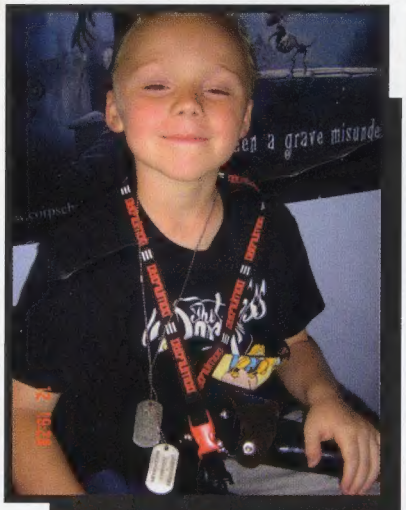
FEEDBACK



ROCK FOR LIFE

JOIN GEORGE from Leicester and support the NEW Kerrang! and Samaritans' 'Rock For Life' campaign by purchasing a Rock For Life dog tag! Available from the Samaritans website www.samaritans.org/kerrang or by calling 01227 811656, the tags cost £2 each plus P&P with no minimum order. Samaritans provide 24-hour confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair. If you feel you need someone to talk to, email jo@samaritans.org or call 08457 90 90 90.

THE MAN THAT FOLLOWS HELL

A FRIEND and I went to a Down gig recently and managed to meet Phil Anselmo! Please could you print this picture of us with Phil outside the gig? Thanks a lot!

DEAN, WIDNES.

CAN'T STOP, GOTTA DATE WITH A HAIRNET

JUST WONDERING about the new Lostprophets video. Why isn't the kid in the kitchen wearing a hair net? With that 'lovely' bush of emo-hair, I'm sure he's a health hazard.

STUART, VIA E-MAIL.

TOOL-IPS IN AMSTERDAM

I'VE JUST returned from Amsterdam, having spent my birthday weekend there. Hailing from South Africa, I never got to see quality live acts so imagine my glee when Tool AND Deftones announced UK dates. I missed Download (and therefore Deftones) but caught Tool on the date you reviewed (K!1114) and was totally mesmerized and blown away by their live power. Then, to add a wee cherry to my cake, while trawling around the streets of Amsterdam looking for a restaurant suitable for my big day, I caught sight of Adam Jones kicking back outside an Italian joint, waiting to go in. The wife and I took this as a sign, went inside, were seated at the same table where he was (by sheer coincidence), and pondered the way fate plays a role in important decisions – like where to eat. Best birthday month of my life, so far. Now, if you would be so kind as to please e-mail me the set-list of the gig, I would be the happiest Tool fan in the world...

C BAXTER, VIA E-MAIL.

CHOMPING GROUND

WHILE WORKING produce at work the other day, I was amazed to see that Goldfinger had gone into the fruit business.... and their plums are really firm and juicy! Ha ha. YOU GUYS ROCK!

MATT, ISLE OF WIGHT.

MEET THE ROCKERS

I MET Lostprophets at a signing in Virgin Megastore Cardiff today and it was awesome! Well worth the hour and a half wait with 500 other fans in the hot sun. All of the band were really nice, especially Ian who made time for a quick chat with everyone. I didn't see one person walk away without a huge smile on their face! I can't wait to see them play at the CIA on July 22nd.

LAURA-AMY, VIA MYSPACE.

PS: Kerrang! is the best mag ever!

SHOE BUSINESS

WHAT THE the hell? Mention Cristina Scabbia's 'huge' heels twice in an interview, and show no pictures? (K!1114) It's not on. Repent.

GINGER T, VIA TEXT.

RANT OF THE WEEK

ENOUGH'S ENOUGH

I LOVE the Angels And Airwaves album ('We Don't Need To Whsiper'), I can't stop playing it. There's not one bad song on the album. I listen to the album after a shit day and it always puts a smile on my face. Sometimes I get depressed and after hearing the album I feel happier and I get a sense of optimism. At times I feel like I have no future and there are times when I see there's no point to life 'cos of all the shit that gets me down. Since buying the record it's made me realise that I shouldn't wallow in my pain but try to seek happiness in the future. When I hear Tom DeLonge's voice I feel optimistic about the future. I may not know where I'm going but at least I know I'm going to be okay. I was reading the latest issue of Kerrang! and I got very pissed off with people dissing Tom DeLonge and Angels And Airwaves. If they've got nothing nice to say, don't say anything at all. I'm fed up with their stupid comments. People are so ignorant. What has Tom done wrong? He's still making great music and what's wrong with that? Just give the guy a break. People should buy the Angels And Airwaves record and listen to the epic sounds and great music and just shut the fuck up! Argh! Keep on rocking, Tom.

HAYLEY, VIA MYSPACE.

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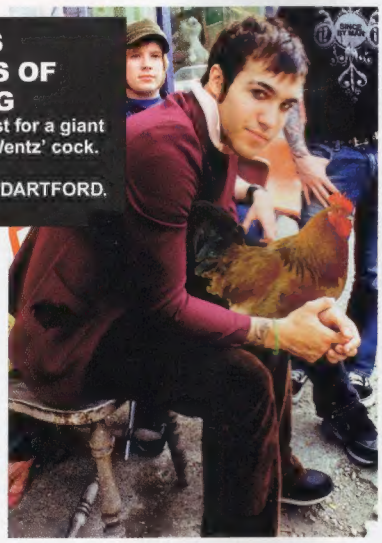
THE PROS AND CONS OF STRIPPING

THIS IS a request for a giant poster of Pete Wentz' cock. He's a real man!

RIDA A, DARTFORD.



(STIMULANTS) THIS ISSUE WAS CREATED BY... KNOWING WHAT IS TRULY GOOD FOR YOU & NOT LISTENING TO ANYMORE BULLSHIT, SWAPPING SIRENS FOR SEAGULLS, NEIL DIAMOND, THE POWER OF NOW (AGAIN), A FINISHED POEM THAT HE WILL NEVER READ, BRING ME THE HORIZON'S BLOWJOB CONFESSIONS, LOSTPROPHETS AT NUMBER ONE, PHONE CALLS FROM SONNY MOORE AND CHRIS CARRABBA, HANGING OUT IN LONDON WITH TOM MORELLO, TRISH THE DISH, RAINBOW DISCOUNTS IN VEGAS, MS PACMAN HUNTS, STOLEN BICYCLE DISGUISE AND REPAIR, MAKING NO PRETENCE ABOUT NOT DOING THE WORK YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE DONE, CONTEMPLATING A HITMAN FOR RONALDO, THE HELL THAT IS HOUSE HUNTING, LUCY W'S BIRTHDAY, THE LOWLY BISH, DRESSING ROOM SWEATBOXES, CRYING AT THE WHO IN HYDE PARK, COUNTRY-ROCKING AT SIN CITY, BONNIE TYLER, AND DON'T FORGET THE JOKER...

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THE KERRANG! DAY OF R

ARCH ENEMY HEAD UP AN ALL-STAR K! SHOW

Fightstar

Bring Me The Horizon

SikTh

The Automatic

NEXT MONTH'S Kerrang! Awards festivities will kick off in blazing rock 'n' roll style with the return of the annual K! Day Of Rock on Thursday, August 10.

Swedish metal titans Arch Enemy, Welsh chart-sensations The Automatic, post-hardcore heroes Fightstar, Watford schizoid metallers SikTh and Sheffield-based metalcore mob Bring Me The Horizon will all be performing and doing signing sessions at London's Virgin Megastore on Oxford Street.

"The Kerrang! Day Of Rock is always special but we genuinely believe this is the strongest bill ever to shake the foundations of the Virgin Megastore," says Kerrang! editor Paul Brannigan. "The line-up reflects the diversity of our scene and, for those lucky enough to get a ticket, we can promise that this will be a day to remember."

Arch Enemy guitarist Michael Amott is looking forward to returning to the UK after their triumphant set at this year's Download Festival and plans to transform the K! Day Of Rock into an altogether different beast.

"After the full-on mayhem of playing to 40,000 metalheads we weren't expecting to be back in the UK again so soon!" grins Amott. "It's really cool that we will be headlining the Kerrang! Day Of Rock next month. It'll be insane getting together with a few fans in such a small place but we are really looking forward to it and will be dishing out some pure fucking metal, Arch Enemy style! In fact we're gonna turn it into the Kerrang! Day Of *Metal*!"

"This is a big one for us," says The Automatic frontman Rob Hawkins. "We're really looking forward to it. It's been an amazing year for us so far and getting invited to play alongside loads of great bands is a big honour. Roll on August 10!"

"We can't wait to get to the Day of Rock," Fightstar frontman Charlie Simpson tells Kerrang!. "Last year we came down but didn't play and had a great time. This year we get to play as well – it will be great. We'll see as many of you there as they'll let in the place!"

"This will be a blast!" admits SikTh guitarist Dan Weller. "We are playing better than ever these days, and loving what we do more than ever, too. We played the 2003 Day Of Rock with The Darkness and had a lot of fun but this time, we have a new album to unleash to the masses. For those who like their metal tight like a vice grip, come down and party hard!"

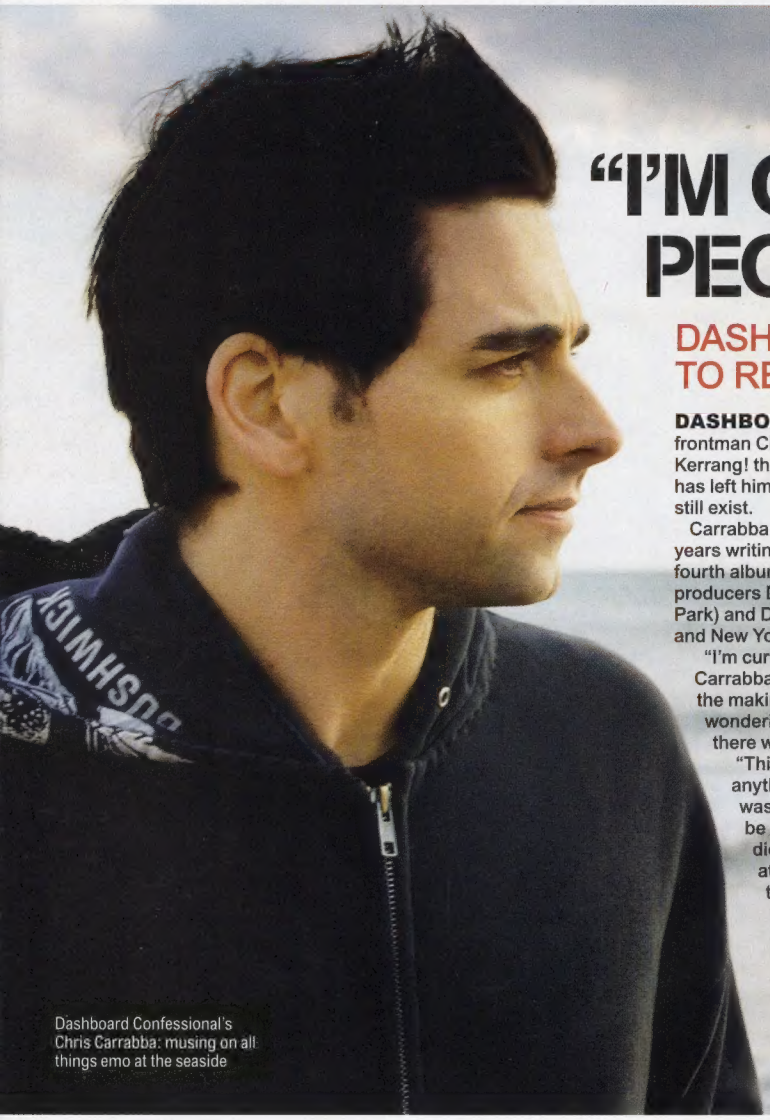
"We're all super-psyched for it," adds Bring Me The Horizon frontman Olly Sykes. "We've never played a store before, especially not a mega one. It will be cool as Hell, all our friends and fans get to come and party hard, and maybe we will win a few new fans over too. It can be nothing but good. It's free, so it has got to be bad-ass!"

The day of rock-filled fun and frolics starts at 1pm (with doors opening at 9am) and entry is free but if you want to stay in the store to see Arch Enemy's performance at 9pm, you will have to be in possession of a special wristband. These will be given out on a first-come-first-served basis from Virgin Megastore on Oxford Street on the morning of August 10.

Arch Enemy

Arch Enemy Photo: Retna

OCK IS COMING...
Virgin
megastores
WIN! TICKETS TO THE K! ROOFTOP BBQ
FANCY RUBBING shoulders with rock stars while stuffing your face with BBQ delights and indulging in a glass of your favourite tipple? Well, it could be your lucky day because we've got a pair of money-can't-buy VIP tickets to the infamous K! rooftop BBQ that takes place during the K! Day Of Rock up for grabs.
For a chance to win the pair, e-mail your name, age, address and phone number to kerrang@emap.com with 'SAVE ME A SAUSAGE!' in the subject header by July 25, 2006. You must be 18 or over to enter. Only one entry per person please and the winner will be picked at random. Good luck!



Dashboard Confessional's Chris Carrabba: musing on all things emo at the seaside

"I'M CURIOUS TO SEE IF PEOPLE STILL CARE..."

DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL MAN RETURNS TO RECLAIM HIS CROWN AS PRINCE OF EMO

DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL frontman Chris Carrabba has revealed to Kerrang! that his absence from the spotlight has left him wondering if the band's fans still exist.

Carrabba and his bandmates took two years writing and recording their forthcoming fourth album 'Dusk And Summer' with producers Don Gilmore (Pearl Jam, Linkin Park) and Daniel Lanois (U2) in Los Angeles and New York.

"I'm curious to see if people still care," Carrabba tells K!. "If we hadn't toured during the making of this record, I'd definitely be wondering if there were still people out there who do.

"This was a much longer process than anything I've ever done before, and it was nice to not have any pressure to be done with it," he confesses. "We did a lot of exploring. We got a bit lost at the beginning, but we managed to find our way. But I knew that this record couldn't just be a little bit better than what we've done before, it had to be a *lot* better."

Songs on the follow-up to 2003's 'A Mark, A Mission, A Brand, A Scar' touch upon a range of subjects including the war in Iraq ('Slow Decay') and forbidden love ('The Secret's In The Telling'), but Carrabba admits that the album took so long because constant touring had left him struggling for things to write about.

"The start of the writing was a bit clumsy," Carrabba says. "I wasn't sure what I was drawing inspiration from and I realised that I was struggling because I hadn't stopped to live at all. I'd come straight out of tour life. So we took some time off, relaxed a bit, and we started to get back some kind of semblance of life just from being stationary."

Are you worried that bands like Fall Out Boy have stolen your thunder since you've been away?

"Nah, not really," he laughs. "There's probably a crossover in audience, but I don't lump us in with them, and it's not like if someone missed us they could go and see them instead and get exactly the same thing."

Dashboard Confessional's album 'Dusk And Summer' is out on July 24 via Vagrant. The band play The Carling Weekend: Reading and Leeds festivals in August.

COME OUT AND PLAY

Stone Stone treat K! readers to an exclusive album playback

EIGHTY LUCKY Kerrang! competition winners crammed into London's sweltering Borderline venue to listen to an exclusive playback of Stone Sour's latest album 'Come What(Ever) May' on July 4.

After being treated to a play of the full album in the presence of frontman Corey Taylor and guitarists Jim Root and Josh Rand, the insatiable crowd demanded a second spin of the album and a live singalong from Taylor. After some coaxing from the gang of fans, Taylor took to the stage and sang the opening track, '30/30-150' to the crowd's delight.

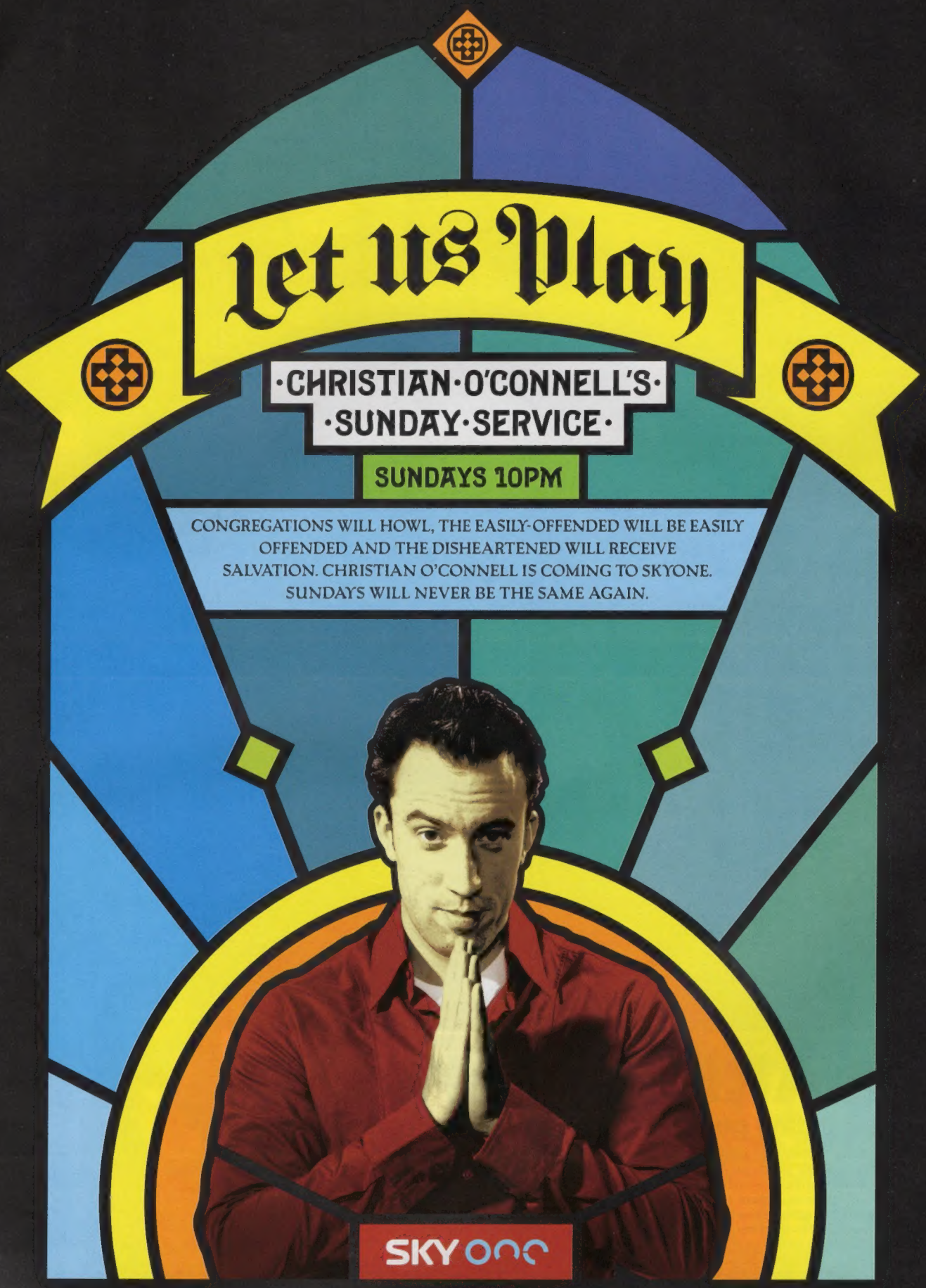
"It's been really cool and a bit weird to be here with all the Kerrang! winners when they're hearing the album for the first time," said Taylor. "It's great to be able to play it and see what everyone thinks."

"It sounded awesome!" grinned 16-year-old Charley Olsen from Brighton. "I had a fabulous night. The guys were really friendly! I couldn't help myself from singing and air-drumming along to the tracks which probably made me look like a right prat, but I don't care because I was really getting into the music!"

'Come (What)Ever May' will be released on July 31 through Roadrunner.

Main: Corey Taylor enjoys an impromptu singalong
Insets: Taylor and Jim Root meet and greet to the max

Photos: Paul Harries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·CHRISTIAN·O'CONNELL'S·
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INTRODUCING
New music heading your way

WE ARE SCIENTISTS

Genre-bending geek rock hotter than a Bunsen burner

"A REMOVAL man innocently asked us if we were of the scientific persuasion," laughs frontman Keith Murray. "He probably thought why else would three pale, skinny guys need a van? We decided there and then that it would be foolish not to call ourselves We Are Scientists."

They may resemble hip secondary school supply teachers who've arrived fresh from a 1985 field trip, but for the Brooklyn-based trio – who are completed by bassist Chris Cain and drummer Michael Tapper – that's neither here nor there. We Are Scientists' major label debut 'With Love And Squalor' is a hook-filled blend of quirky indie-rock, discordant riffs and the type of smouldering disco beats that would coax even the most socially-awkward onto the dancefloor.

In April, the three-piece held their own alongside the likes of Atreyu and Aiden at the Give It A Name festival and walked away with a new legion of fans.

"We had so much fun playing those shows," says Murray. "It was great to play on a heavier bill to people who probably had never thought of checking us out before. The most satanic album I own is probably Slayer's 'Reign In Blood', but we're too skinny to write riffs like that. We can barely lift our own equipment."

HEAR: The new single 'The Great Escape' out on July 17 via Virgin.
MORE INFO AT: www.wearescientists.com

We Are Scientists: geek and destroy (*Keith Murray, centre*)

Words: Simon Young **Photo:** Rob Hann

WIN! FFAF SIGNED MACBETH SHOES + £200 WORTH OF GOODIES

HOW'S YOUR week been so far? Good? Bad? Average? Want to turn the dial up to, "bloody brilliant, thanks!"? Then maybe we, with the help of our ever-generous friends at Loserkids UK, could assist you. We have a pair of collectible Macbeth shoes signed by all five members of Welsh post-hardcore heroes Funeral For A Friend up for grabs. The lucky winner will also get their sweaty little sun-kissed fingers on £200 worth of mighty fine Macbeth booty as well. Oh yes, little ones, we're telling you the truth! Do you want a go at winning? Then answer this question:

WHAT IS THE TITLE OF FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND'S CURRENT ALBUM?

E-mail your answer, name, age, address and phone number to kerrang@emap.com with 'I PUT THE FUN IN FUNERAL' in the subject header. You can also post your entry to the usual address. Check out www.loserkids.uk.com for more info.

MACBETH

All competitions can be entered by sending your answer on a postcard to *Kerrang!, PO Box 2930, London W1A 6DZ*. Closing date for these competitions is July 18, 2006. Only one entry per person please. Winners will be selected at random and notified by post.

WIN! UNDERGROUND ENGLAND SHOES

***'WE'LL BE** decked in all black and slamming the pit fantastic...'* Or so promised Ben Folds Five on their song 'Underground' once. That's where we can be happy, apparently. Well, we can't swear to that but we can show off these mighty fine shoes from style geniuses Underground England, who have a hot-as-a-poker range of footwear adorned in skull and crossbones and authentic tattoo motifs. Oh, and we can offer you the chance to win a pair, too. We have two pairs of these cute, tattoo-print ballerina pumps for the ladies and two pairs of these cool black leather pumps with subtle skull detailing for the gents up for grabs. For a chance to win a pair, tell us:

WHAT IS THE BOTTOM OF A SHOE OTHERWISE KNOWN AS?

E-mail your answer, name, age, address, phone number and shoe size to kerrang@emap.com with 'EVERYTHING'S HEAVY UNDERGROUND' in the subject header. You can also post your entry to the usual address. For stockist details, call 0870 161 1647 or log onto www.underground-england.co.uk for more info.

6 things we didn't know last week

BAD RELIGION frontman Greg Graffin's ideal dinner guest would be Charles Darwin, the father of evolutionary biology. "He was an experimentalist with plants, so I guess I'd serve him some of our new, fancy varieties of sweetcorn that weren't around in the Victorian era," says Graffin. "I think he'd be pretty blown away." Especially if it was dished up on some fancy plates.
SOURCE: www.exclaim.ca

Strange news just in. Perma-grumps STAIND are self-confessed comedy experts and count 'Animal House', 'Caddyshack' and 'Big Daddy' among their favourite films. It really comes through in their songs, doesn't it? Oh, wait, what? Sorry. We were thinking of someone else.
SOURCE: www.mtv.com/news

METALLICA will make their debut appearance on 'The Simpsons' in September on US telly. The Californian foursome recorded their voices for the cartoon last year.
SOURCE: www.metallica.com

Extremely rare footage of MEGADETH's first ever show in 1984 has surfaced online. The video clip is of the band belting out 'The Mechanix' in Berkeley, California, with Slayer's Kerry King on second guitar. With hair!
SOURCE: www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCkRGEFyc-Q

SEBASTIAN BACH wishes you'd all just lay of his mate, Axl Rose. Particularly when it comes to his rather plastic-looking appearance. "The man has never had plastic surgery or Botox," says Bach. "That's the way he looks. He looks young, dude!" Young isn't the word we'd pick, dude.
SOURCE: www.tvguide.com

NEW FOUND GLORY guitarist Chad Gilbert has a confession to make. "I bought Huey Lewis' 'Greatest Hits' the other day," he admits. "I just saw it and found myself paying for it. It's awesome." We think young Chadwick has spent too much time in the sun, recently...
SOURCE: A phone chat with Chad

Axl Rose: don't say the B word, he's just got good genes. Hmmm...

SCANNER

BITE-SIZE NEWS, GOSSIP AND SCANDAL...

ON THE UP

They may have left all the public speaking to their former Blink 182 bandmate Tom DeLonge over the last few months but it looks like bassist/vocalist Mark Hoppus and drummer Travis Barker are gearing up to unleash their new band, **PLUS 44**. The pair have posted the first proper band photo since their formation in April 2005 on their website (www.plusfortyfour.com). Although no official details have been released, it looks like the band now includes guitarist Craig Fairbaugh (ex-Transplants) and guitarist Shane Gallagher (The Nervous Return) in the line-up and not Carol Heller (ex-Get The Girl), who was in the group initially. Hoppus and Barker and their bandmates are working on their debut album, which is rumoured for release in October.

Adam Lazzara (*left*) and Pete Wentz support 'Rock For Life'

DO YOUR BIT FOR ROCK FOR LIFE

[illegible]

BREAKER

"IT'S BORDERLINE SLAYER!"

BULLET FOR MY VALENTINE are working hard writing songs for the follow-up to their 2005 debut, 'The Poison'. "We're on fire," says frontman Matt Tuck. "We're really happy with the new songs. A lot of bands' second albums will be a lot more commercial, but ours is the complete reverse. It's borderline Slayer!"

"We have two weeks pre-production in September, and then we go into the studio in January," adds drummer Michael 'Moose' Thomas. "Not everything's planned out yet, but going by the last 18 months that we've been on the road, and the way we've been playing, its definitely going to be heavier." The band are currently on tour with G N'R. See Volume p58 for details.

METAL WORK

The Brighton Institute of Modern Music (BIMM) is opening its doors for **METAL SUMMER SCHOOL**. This year's course runs from August 14 to 17, and students will be studying and playing songs by Metallica, Trivium, Slipknot, Funeral For A Friend, Iron Maiden, Fall Out Boy, Slayer, Green Day, Lostprophets and more, under the guidance of a list of tutors which include Adrian Erlandson (Cradle Of Filth), Dan Weller (SikTh), Colin Doran (Hundred Reasons), Benji (Skindred), Mark Clayden and Jason Bowld (Pitchshifter/This Is Menace) and Ace (Skunk Anasie). The summer school is open to vocalists, guitarists, bass players and drummers and you're advised to book your place early to avoid disappointment! Log onto www.bimm.co.uk or call 01273 626 666 for more info.

SQUARE EYES

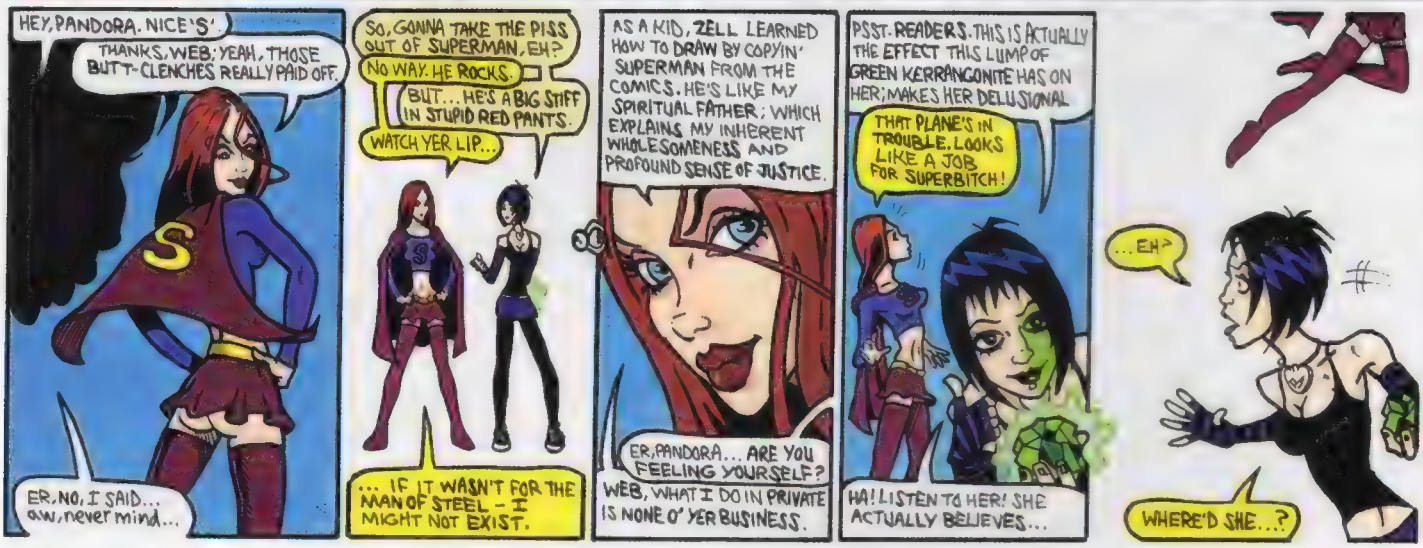
HENRY ROLLINS is getting to grips with the newest string to his bow - TV presenting. Rollins has his own talk show on the Independent Film Channel in the States, simply titled 'The Henry Rollins Show', which sees him waxing lyrical on the likes of music, politics, film and pop culture, as well as interviewing celebrity guests. "It gives me a voice," Rollins tells K!. "It lets me write my own material and mouth off and I get to interview really interesting people, like Ozzy Osbourne, Oliver Stone and (German film auteur) Werner Herzog." Rollins also revealed that he's working on getting the show aired outside of America. "I'd love to take it to different countries," he says. "I'd like to interview Tony Blair and Jack Straw and get them to give me some straight answers about their involvement in the Iraq war." Check out www.ifctv.com for clips.

Ow, that's going to smart in the morning 'Hatchet'

IT'S A SCREAM!

This August Bank Holiday, fear has a new name – **THE ZONE HORROR FRIGHTFEST**. One of the world's greatest horror and fantasy film festivals, this year's event takes place at the Odeon West End, Leicester Square, London, and runs from Thursday August 24 to Monday 29. There'll be a staggering selection of exclusive sneak previews and premieres, plus guest introductions by directors and cast members. Highlights of this year's proceedings include hardcore splatterfest 'Hatchet', Korean creature-feature 'The Host', and savage psycho thriller 'The Lost'. Weekend passes are available now, with individual tickets going on sale on August 1. Full details of the films and tickets are available at www.frightfest.co.uk and www.odeon.co.uk or by phoning the Odeon call centre on 0871 224 4007.

PANDORA by Ray Zell



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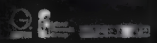

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Muse's Matt Bellamy reaches for the stratosphere

Photos: Nick Shearer

KKKKK INCREDIBLE
KKKK GREAT
KKK FAIR
KK POOR
K RUBBISH

BLACK HOLE SUN

A SUPERMASSIVE RETURN FOR MATT BELLAMY AND CO

MUSE
SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE, LONDON
28.06.06
KKKKK

THE HANDMADE sign held by the hopeful soul, patiently stationed by the entrance of the bustling Empire reads: 'NEED A TICKET, PLEASE HELP!' Frankly, you don't fancy his chances. Not tonight. Not when it's just five days before the release of Muse's fourth album, 'Black Holes And Revelations' and not when tonight is the night the band have decided to mark their first proper UK performance in nearly three years with a free show for competition winners at this mid-sized theatre. You'd have to be *insane* to part with a ticket.

Muse gigs have always carried a sense of spectacle to match even the grandest of their musical ideas, but the feverish excitement from tonight's crowd comes not only from a close-up chance to see a band last seen filling Earl's Court twice over, but also to see where Muse could have possibly gone after 2003's Armageddon-inclined opus, 'Absolution'. Then again, as opener 'Take A Bow' unfurls from a single piano riff into a symphonic supernova – complete with cataclysmic big bang finale – it seems that following up an album that *began* with the end of the world is less of a concern when you have the whole solar system at your disposal.

What's impressive about the new material isn't just the fact that the neo-clubland pulse of 'Map Of The Problematique' or the groovalicious shakedown of single 'Supermassive Black Hole' showing Muse to be masters of where-do-you-want-to-go-today? reinvention, but also how well it already translates to a live environment. For all their technical virtuosity and imagination, there's an underlying, elemental energy to all Muse performances that can condense the most outlandish of impulses into a bullet-point blitzkrieg of knock-out intensity and heart-bursting *song* – one that needs no additional explanation.

The fact that Matt Bellamy says barely two words to his audience all night scarcely matters when he's there, flailing about his piano for 'Butterflies And Hurricanes'' Rachmaninov-style breakdowns, demolishing his fretboard for 'Stockholm Syndrome''s Slayer-baiting overdrive, unleashing noisy streams of alien feedback between songs – less still when he's flanked on all sides by an aurora borealis of flashing video screens and giant, transporter room lighting tubes that compete with arena-sized sound levels for sensory dominance.

It's a testament to their forward thinking that they close the evening not with the familiar chart triumphs of 'Bliss' or 'New Born' but with another new track, 'Knights Of Cydonia' – a call-to-arms *berserk*-athon of helium prog lunacy, spaghetti western swagger and Led Zeppelin bombast that, more than anything tonight, offers the best indication of where Muse are at right now. Which means that 2006 is about to get a whole lot more exciting.

CATHERINE YATES

MOST WANTED!

The Black Dahlia Murder: not as geeky as they look

THE BLACK DAHLIA MURDER

PLUS: MAROON, BORN FROM PAIN

MEAN FIDDLER, LONDON
18.06.06
KKKK

THE MEAN Fiddler is nowhere near capacity tonight. It is, after all, quite an ambitious leap from The Black Dahlia Murder's last London date at the Camden Underworld, but the lack of sweaty bodies does nothing to dampen what is an absolutely scorching bill. Despite their straight-edge vegan core, Maroon unleash a nose-smashing tirade of heavy-as-fuck metal, raw and brutal. The German five-piece have shared stages with many of hardcore and metal's superstars (Agnostic Front, Hatebreed, Sepultura), and after a long slog, look set to have their 'When Worlds Collide' album heard *en masse*.

Born From Pain are no strangers to The Black Dahlia Murder fans having toured with them earlier this year, but their show tonight leaves a bitter taste. Long and repetitive, their normally ferocious sound lacks variety – unlike their merchandise stand which has a startling array of different designs. Capable of so much more, Che and co tonight just play; they don't destroy the venue.

The Black Dahlia Murder, on the other hand, are a totally different beast. Launching straight from soundcheck into 'Thy Horror Cosmic', a frenzy of blistering, bludgeoning blastbeats from the 'Unhallowed' album, they pummel the Mean Fiddler with sound – double bass like a hail of bullets. Geeky and unassuming frontman, Trevor Strnad, (clad in black-rimmed glasses and a Jawbreaker T-shirt) is one of metal's most versatile vocalists; able to twist his voice into both a deep guttural roar and a possessed banshee growl, unleashing the dark, macabre and sexually-perverse lyrics onto this captive audience. Bouncing and twisting his way across stage, he encourages a savage circle pit. "Move your fucking asses!" he roars. "Come on you pussies!" Fists punch the air and bodies pile up down the front. Pure unadulterated carnage.

BOBBIE LANE

Photo: James Sharrock

MARMADUKE DUKE

BARFLY, LONDON
30.06.06
KKKK

GET CAPE. WEAR CAPE. MOSH.

THIS RIDICULOUSLY hot evening is only going to get more ridiculous. A gaggle of youths appear outside Camden's Barfly wearing improvised bin liner capes with plastic swords in their clutches and healthy intent in their eyes. They are here to worship The Duke. And worship they will.

There is no real mystery shrouding the identities of this band anymore – tonight is completely sold out – but as Marmaduke Duke descend upon the stage to rapturous applause, the five still insist on retaining an inscrutable sense of bewilderment about them. They immediately engulf the room in the thunderous abstract tones of 'Fridge and Fromage' with yellow netting adorning their painted faces and an assortment of dresses, cowboy boots and hot pants so outrageously hot the emergency sprinklers were in danger of being set off.

Having lost the makeshift masks they embark upon more musical madness. While the new songs are ready to slay a whole new generation of disco enthusiasts, inciting an airborne riot of crowdsurfers in this tiny venue, existing material is still positively majestic in it's experimental hardcore bizarreness.

The Dragon and The Atmosphere's leaps into the adoring crowd during 'The Kill And The Kure' signal the end of the fiercest part of tonight's musical proceedings but there is, of course, always time for another impromptu sword fight.

RAZIQ RAUF

POLYSICS

CONCORDE 2, BRIGHTON
02.07.06
KKK

SWEATY JAPANESE POP PUNK LUNACY.

THE SIGHT that greets K! upon entering the Concorde tonight – a Japanese man dressed in a black suit dashing about the stage banging out widdly leads on a guitar and supplying sporadic vocals into Christmas tree light-adorned microphones over Nintendo-esque backing music *while* roadies prepare the stage for Polysics – is the kind of thing Bill Murray got paid big bucks to look at with bemusement in 'Lost In Translation'. As it is, he's just a precursor to the orange boiler suited lunacy of the main attraction. The four-piece launch into the spell-check tripping 'Coelakanth is Android' in unhinged style, their Devo-influenced bouncy Japanese pop far punkier here than on record. Despite insufferable temperatures, both band and crowd put an admirable effort in, the former rattling off songs without pause while the latter valiantly pogo as much as they can, particularly on the spiky 'I My Me Mine'. Vocalist Hayashi is all grins and excitable squawks between songs and there is no doubting their commitment and enthusiasm. However, after a while the songs start to blend into a relentless, Moog-flavoured clanging blur and in places it stings a little too much of style over substance.

DAN SLESSOR

Tom Araya can play Slayer's set-list in his sleep

UNHOLY ALLIANCE

FEATURING: SLAYER, LAMB OF GOD, MASTODON, CHILDREN OF BODOM, THINE EYES BLEED

HIFI BUYS AMPHITHEATRE, ATLANTA
27.06.06

KKKKK

CLASH OF THE TITANS: THE RETURN.

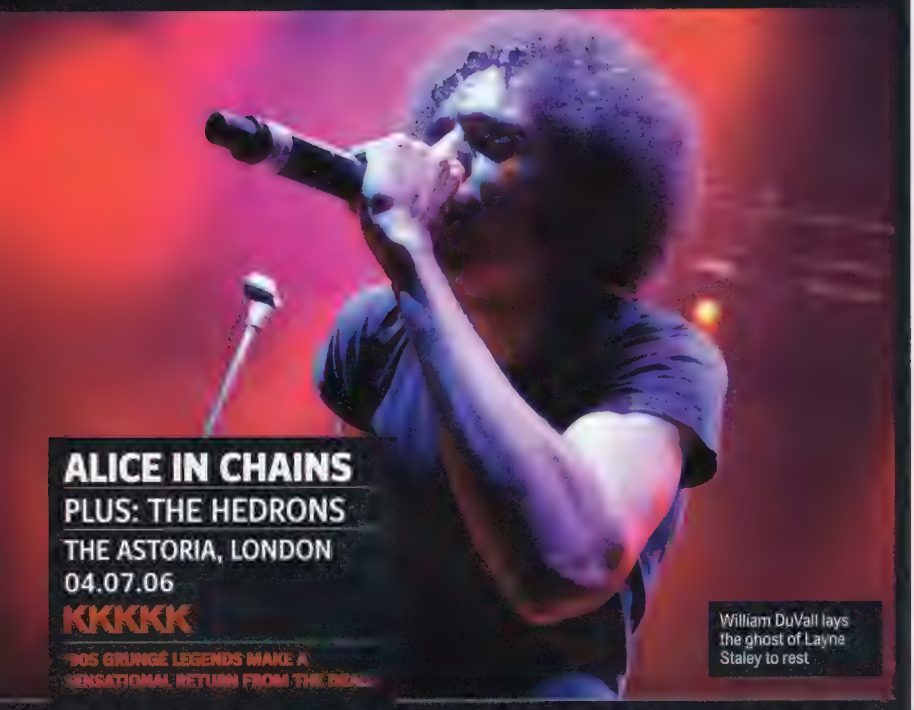
IT'S SO metal it *hurts*. It's the kind the kind of gig where it seems every other word of every overheard conversation is 'Slayer'. A gig where a stroll through the car park to the venue is a car stereo crash-course in Slayer's back catalogue. A gig where, even while taking a piss a full hour before it all kicks off, all it takes is someone to yell *'Slayer, motherfuckers!'* for everyone else in the packed loo to respond with a spittle-spraying chant of, you guessed it, *'Slayarrr...!'*.

It almost makes you pity Thine Eyes Bleed, who – despite a groundswell of raucous support from a crowd diminished by long beer queues – don't quite manage to fill the venue with the sound of their guttural heaviosity. Children of Bodom do their best to keep their finger-splaying fretwork from echoing tinnily, but in the sweltering breeze it'll take a metal cannon-blast from a band like Mastodon playing their home turf to really set this crowd alight. They set foot onstage to a sound that can only come from a throng of metalheads witnessing one of their own scaling lofty heights. They unleash the weirdly cybernetic opening riffs of 'Circle Of Cysquatch' from their upcoming 'Blood Mountain' album on the unsuspecting horn-throwers. It soon morphs into a kind of high-volume, mind-bogglingly technical but neck-snapping mule-punch that could only be followed up by the anthemic brutality of 'Blood And Thunder'. No-one less than Lamb Of God could follow up such a celebratory atmosphere. The Atlanta crowd's southern affinity with the Richmond natives is hard not to notice. A crippling mosh erupts as Randy Blythe races along the stage and spits the voice of Satan into his microphone. He dedicates the twin-guitar blitzkrieg of 'Redneck' to the laughing locals, and the band leave to the kind of screams for more that make it clear that, if Slayer have any heirs apparent, it's Lamb Of God.

But on tonight's evidence these demigods are in no danger of retiring soon. The lights dim and if you didn't know a Slayer gig was on you'd think a riot was about to tear the venue down. Is it possible to not teeter over the brink of weeping with joy, headbanging, or shitting yourself at the utter coolness of 'Mandatory Suicide' or 'Reign In Blood'? Not tonight it isn't. Plastic seat-backs get slapped in unison at every pause to make the sound of a military rally. The brash riffage of 'Cult' from their upcoming 'Christ Illusion' record gets the response usually afforded an already-established classic. That's because these veteran thrashers have never deviated from the evil sound, their tireless stage presence or their almost unnatural ability to transform the multiple generations of friendly, beer-swilling metalheads into horn-throwing, moshing berserkers. Tonight they've left no doubt that they still reign supreme.

ALEXANDER MILAS

AIC's William DuVall and Jerry Cantrell: Melancholy and despair



William DuVall lays the ghost of Layne Staley to rest

ALICE IN CHAINS
PLUS: THE HEDRONS
THE ASTORIA, LONDON
04.07.06
KKKKK

'90S GRUNGE LEGENDS MAKE A SENSATIONAL RETURN FROM THE DEAD

NO-ONE GIVES a fuck about The Hedrons. Tonight, one of the greatest bands to ever emerge from Seattle is about to rise from the grave. Alice In Chains never officially disbanded following singer Layne Staley's tragic death in 2002, and singer/guitarist Jerry Cantrell was always the songwriting soul of the band that grabbed heavy metal by the hand and dragged it kicking and screaming to meet its ghostly blues ancestry. But whether their tour is sacrilege or the best fucking news, like, *ever* for people who missed them the first time around – or just simply missed them – is going to fall squarely on touring singer William DuVall tonight.

However, it takes him all of a heartbeat to erase any doubt about his credentials. He doesn't just hit the notes – oddly discordant and warbling things of transcendent beauty that, set to a backdrop of Cantrell's snarling less-is-so-much-fucking-more guitar leads are the very sound of despair and melancholy – it's as if he's channelling Staley himself. Suddenly all questions of whether this night is about nostalgia for the band gone by or whether this *is really* Alice In Chains become absurdly irrelevant as the poetic grace of songs like 'Man In A Box' and 'Rooster' – their sheer mournful gorgeousness – remind everyone of what made Alice In Chains very fucking great in the first place. It's a rare lyric that doesn't have the whole of the sold-out venue singing along, and judging by the explosive adulation punctuating every entry on the set-list, it's a crowd very thankful that they're back. It's the joy of hearing these masterworks of musical restraint and heartfelt allure live – of witnessing this glorious resurrection – that makes tonight so poignant. It's the kind of night that can only end too soon.

ALEXANDER MILAS

Photos: Chris Casey

DARKEST HOUR
PLUS: CEPHALIC CARNAGE
UNDERWORLD, LONDON
30.06.06
KKKKK

AIN'T NO CARNAGE SWEETER THAN A DARKEST HOUR SHOW.

THERE ARE moments tonight during Cephalic Carnage's set where it seems almost impossible that they are hitting as many notes as they are – flailing around like they're plugged into the mains, their technical grindcore is mind-boggling in both complexity and ferocity. Darkest Hour are utterly staggering too. Emerging to the foreboding intro of 'With A Thousand Words To Say But One', they throw themselves into their savage thrash with murder in mind. The crowd response is totally off the hook, a heaving mass of continuous movement with bodies flying from the stage constantly. 'An Epitaph' is as bruising as ever and the closing epic of 'Tranquil' is simply riveting, Kris Norris making the complex solo that dominates the song seem effortless. For all their brutality, DH are a good time party band and their intensity is perfectly offset by the great vibes that permeate the room. The encore kicks off with the closing bars of 'How The Beautiful Decay', which makes for a chill-inducing moment before they finish the crowd off with the breathtaking one-two punch of 'For The Soul Of The Saviour' and a venomous 'Sadist Nation'. Friday night nirvana.

DAN SLESSOR

ARMORED SAINT
THE UNDERWORLD, LONDON
01.07.06
KKKKK

LOS ANGELES THRASH HEROES MAKE A TRIUMPHANT RETURN.

IT'S EASY to forget that Armored Saint frontman John Bush turned down an offer to sing for Metallica in their infancy because he wanted to stick with his own band. Or that – far less trivially – he fronted thrash legends Anthrax throughout the '90s and through to last year before the reunion of their 'classic' line-up. And then he opens his mouth. The man can *sing* – not some growl or half-arsed falsetto, but proper metal-as-fuck belting. It makes the fact that this is only the second time Armored Saint have ever played on these shores – the last time being 1991 – all the more tragic. Blame label mismanagement or horrible luck, but this gloriously old-school, impeccably tight showing is undeniably bittersweet because, simply, Armored Saint fucking rule tonight. This isn't the sound of thrash diluted by commercial concerns or misguided musical reinvention. It's in-your-face, finger-shredding chorus-shouting *fun* as firmly planted in NWOBHM showmanship as it is DIY punk - it's *proper* thrash, innit. But it's a shame that the Camden Underworld isn't packed out because it isn't just ridiculously entertaining. It's a glimpse of true greatness that should have been.

ALEXANDER MILAS

AXIS OF EVIL
PLUS: OUT FOR BLOOD
HIGHBURY GARAGE, LONDON
29.06.06
KKK

INDUSTRIAL GRINDINGS IN THE CAPITAL.

WITH SONG titles like 'Piss Soaked Wrench' and more untamed facial hair than she can shake her walking stick at, Coventry's Out For Blood are your nan's favourite new band in waiting. Switching between ferocious hardcore bursts and dense, jaw-breaking grooves reminiscent of a steamroller charging in first gear, they stomp, spit and snarl their way through a half hour set that defines the term *heavy* metal.

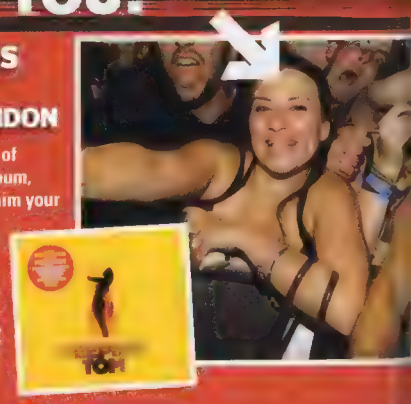
Featuring ex-members of Labrat and Pain Control, Axis Of Evil have been hailed as Britain's loudest band by everyone from the 'Sunday Sport' to Channel 5. Within minutes it's abundantly clear as to why; hitting the stage amid a tornado of rapid-fire drum bursts and grinding riffs, drenched beneath a blanket of synth-induced melodies to create a sound often as chilling as it is heavy. There are, however, a few minor factors that currently route AOE to being a *good* band rather than a *great* one. One is their cock-chokingly frustrating insistence on keeping the snare pumping thick and fast, rather than letting the riffs take over to add a delicious groove-laden soundtrack for an audience who mirror the band's onstage energy. Otherwise, this would have much to offer a genre increasingly dependent on old hands such as Ministry for sustenance. Axis Of Evil are the ultimate industrial prick-tease.

ETAN [illegible]

IS THIS YOU?

ALICE IN CHAINS
04.07.06
THE ASTORIA, LONDON

HELLO! YOU'VE won a copy of Peeping Tom's self-titled album, reviewed on page 48! To claim your album, send your name, address, a recent pic of yourself and the gig ticket (both will be returned) to: That's Me, Kerrang!, PO BOX 2930, London, W1A 6DZ



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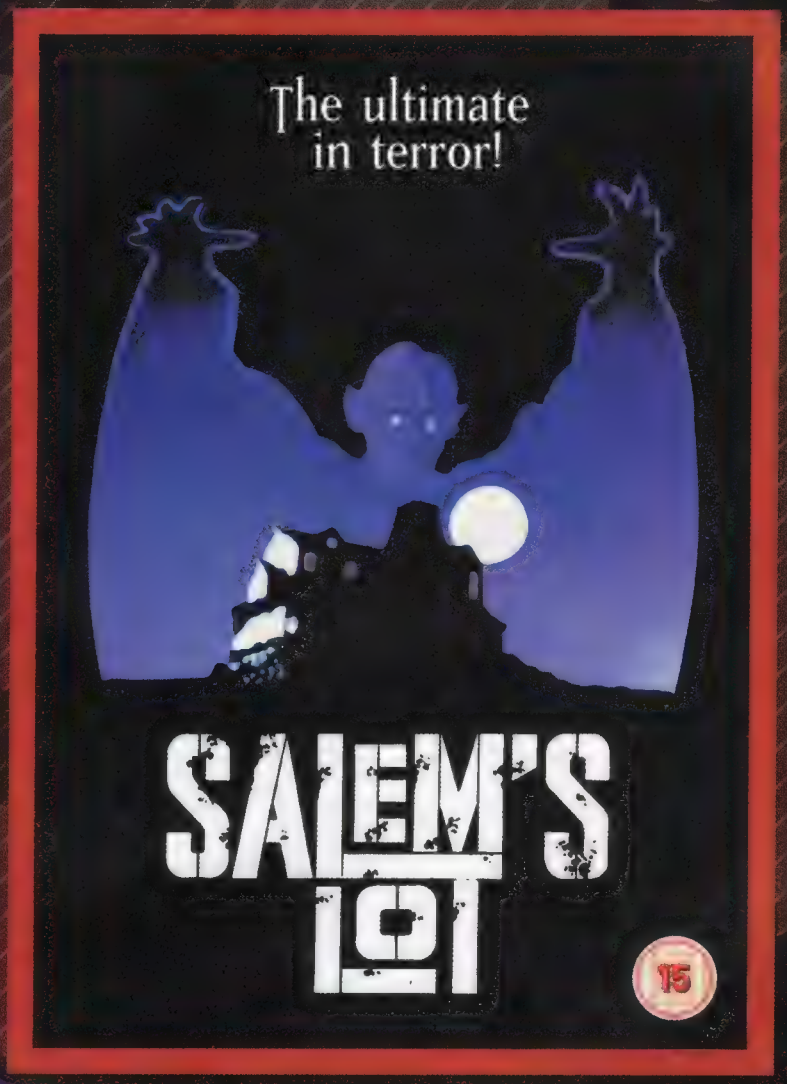

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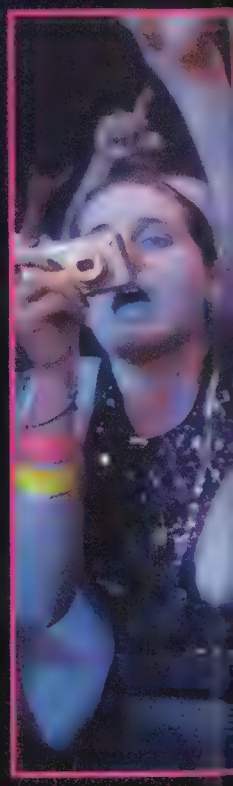
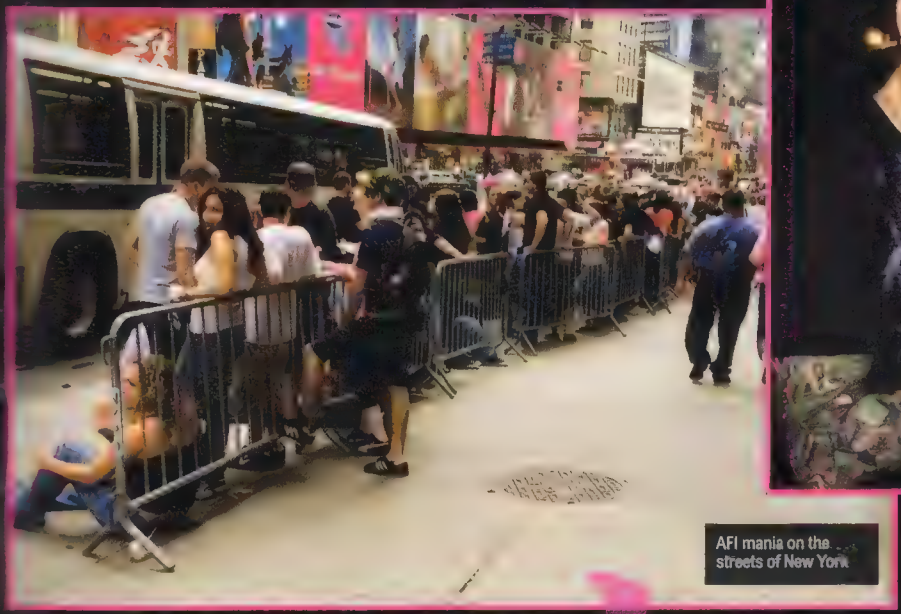
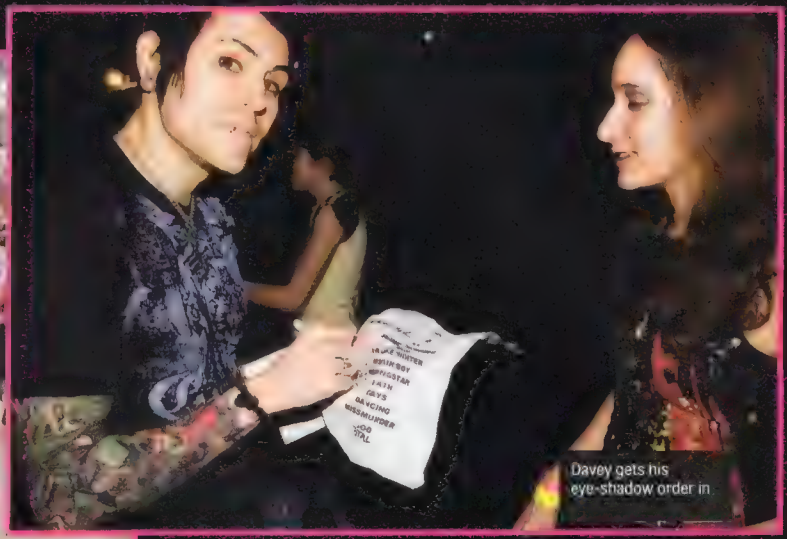




AFI mania on the streets of New York



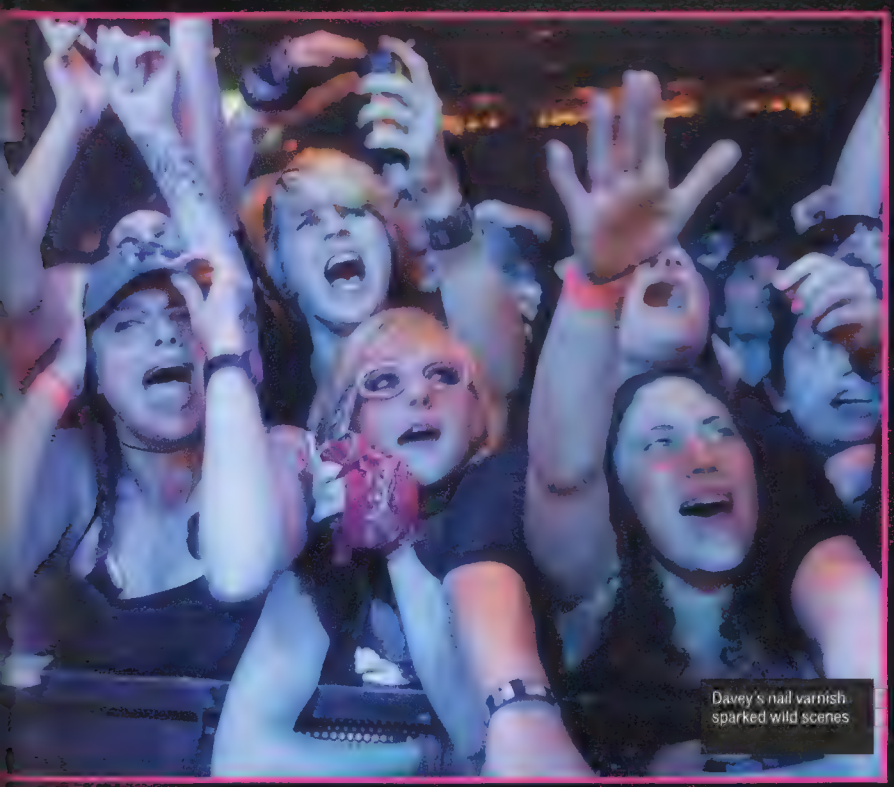
Davey gets his eye-shadow order in

Jade's suggested album artwork lacked a certain something

CA'S WANTED

Words: Daniel J Lane Photos: Dave Willis

THE PHENOMENAL RISE OF AFI, GOTH PUNK'S ORIGINAL DARK MASTERS



Davey's nail varnish sparked wild scenes

IT MAY only be midday, but the queue for New York's Roseland Ballroom already spills off West 52nd Street up 7th Avenue and back around onto 53rd. Clad entirely in black – a stark contrast to the smart summer wear of the thirtysomething fashonistas passing by – this army of teenagers are waiting to watch AFI play the second of two sold-out nights at Roseland as part of their first US headline tour since March 2004.

Big Joe, who works security on the stage door, has never seen anything like it in his life. "These kids are just insane," he says. "When I clocked off work at 3:30 this morning they were all still hanging around. I told them that the band had left a couple of hours ago, but they wouldn't take my word for it. When I came back to work at 10 this morning they were all still here – exactly the same kids."

AT 9PM that evening AFI frontman Davey Havok struts into the production office – a vision of glamour and flamboyance in tight white trousers and a matching T-shirt. He wants to borrow a razor to shave his armpits and get rid of his five o'clock shadow. Biology is a bitch when you're the king of androgynous punk rock.

In the flesh, Havok is a truly striking figure, with high cheekbones and perfectly preened jet-black hair. He looks utterly otherworldly. We have a brief conversation about his long, immaculately painted fingernails (yes, they are real, folks), but there's no time to stop and chat because there are 3,800 kids downstairs chanting his band's name.

These are extraordinary times for AFI. Hysteria follows them everywhere they go. Their latest album, 'Decemberunderground', debuted at Number One on the US Billboard chart. It's already sold over 400,000 copies. To say AFI are seriously hot property in the States right now would be an understatement.

FAST-FORWARD 24 hours to the Electric Factory in downtown Philadelphia where 16-year-old Valerie from New Jersey is sat at the front of the line outside the venue sobbing her heart out. She

was supposed to be at last night's show in New York.

"I had tickets for the Roseland Ballroom show but everything went wrong," she says, mascara running down her cheeks. "I'm too young to go to the city by myself, and there was no-one I knew who could take me. I'm sorry if I appear hysterical, but everything that my life has stood for in the last four years will be stood on that stage right in front of me tonight."

With AFI's sudden mainstream status, it would be easy to dismiss Valerie as just another obsessed fan. But with a 15-year career and seven albums under their belt, AFI are far from the *band du jour*. They have genuinely made a huge impact on people's lives – years before the likes of My Chemical Romance, Fall Out Boy and Panic! At the Disco arrived on the scene.

"AFI mean everything to me," says Valerie. "I was going through a real low-point in my life. My family broke apart, and listening to AFI helped me get though it."

Jade arrived at the venue straight from cricket practice

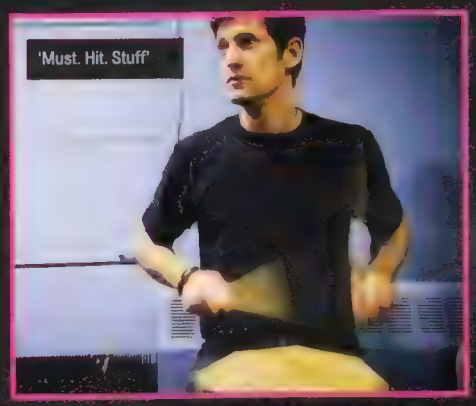
AT THE nearby Sheraton Society Hill hotel AFI guitarist Jade Puget and bassist Hunter Burgan are having lunch. After a good night's sleep, the pair are chatty and relaxed, laughing and joking and finishing each other's sentences – clearly not the pouting prima donnas that their promotional photos would lead you to believe.

"Our fans are the best," grins Puget, both his hair and his make-up absolutely flawless. "It's extraordinary the lengths some fans go to in order to see our shows and meet us. People fly and drive incredible distances."

Such is the militancy of AFI's fanbase that the band have been forced to travel under pseudonyms to avoid the unwanted attention. While Hunter remains tight-lipped about his monicker, Puget 'fesses up that he normally checks into hotels under the name Hugh G. Rection. Clearly the mark of a man with a sense of humour. But it's also the mark of a man with both feet planted firmly on the ground.

"I remember my first tour with AFI," he recalls. "It was the summer of '97 and that was the first time I saw someone with an AFI tattoo. I didn't think, 'Wow! I've made it. I must be in a shit hot band because people have got our logo tattooed on their arms' I just thought, 'Man, that guy must be nuts because we're only a little band from Ukiah, California'. When we played the MTV Movie Awards a month before the new album came out some guy had already got the rabbits from the cover of 'Decemberunderground' tattooed on his wrist. Weird, huh?"

While the band's enigmatic frontman, Davey Havok, appears to be a magnet for outsiders and misfits, Puget gets his fair share of bizarre fan mail too.



'Must. Hit. Stuff'

"Dave gets a lot of the, 'I'm gonna kill myself,' or, 'I was gonna kill myself but...' letters, I get sent a lot of drawings and presents. But there is this one girl who writes to me as much as twice a day, every day. Every time I go home I get a stack of 50 hand written letters from her, and we're not talking one or two sentences – she writes pages and pages."

The transition from cult appeal to major league stardom seems to have been an easy one for this, "little band from Ukiah, California." After a decade and a half of ceaseless touring, they haven't forgotten who their friends are. Their road crew (a mere four people) is made up of friends from back home with Puget's younger brother, Smith, serving as the band's tour manager.

"We always try and employ people we know," Puget explains. "Success usually brings out the worst in people, but we've always kept level heads on our shoulders. If you think you *have* to act a certain way to maintain a certain kind of rock star image then you're just retarded as far as I'm concerned."

AFI: THE STORY SO FAR

1991
High school friends Adam Carson and Davey Marchand form A Fire Inside with guitarist Mark Stopholese and bassist Vic Chalker. Chalker "lost interest" in the band after a few months and was replaced with Geoff Kresge.

1993
AFI release 'Dork', a split 7" EP with fellow Ukiah punks Loose Change who feature future AFI member Jade Puget on guitar. Soon after its release, AFI disband to go to college.

1994
They reunite for a one-off hometown show. It prompts them to drop out of college to pursue the band full time.

1995
AFI release their debut album 'Answer That And Stay Fashionable' on Wingnut Records.

1996
Offspring frontman Dexter Holland signs the band to his Nitro label for the follow-up 'Very Proud Of Ya'.

1997
After the release of 'Shut Your Mouth and Open Your Eyes' Kresge leaves the band for personal reasons and is replaced by Hunter Burgan. Mark Stopholese also leaves the band and is replaced by Jade Puget.

1998
The 'A Fire Inside EP' is released on Green Day frontman Billie Joe Armstrong's Adeline Records.

1999
AFI return to Nitro for their fourth album 'Black Sails In The Sunset'. The record marks a new darker direction for the band, influencing the likes of Aiden and My Chemical Romance.

2001
AFI open for The Offspring on their European arena tour.

2003
AFI sign to Dreamworks records and release their sixth album 'Sing The Sorrow' in March. The album debuts at Number Five in the US and is certified gold (over 500,000 sales) a month later.

2004
AFI are forced to cancel a huge US headline tour after doctors tell Havok to rest his voice. 'Sing The Sorrow' hits the one million sales mark.

2006
After two years away AFI return with 'Decemberunderground' which goes straight to Number One in the US.

The new bearded band member struggled to fit in...

"We got into a lot of fights. It was literally war on the streets."

JADE PUGET

Hunter enjoys a vegan cookie at the meet and greet in Philly

But, given their recent surge in popularity, it must be getting difficult to maintain that all-important one on one relationship with their fans?

"We never once for a second think, 'Oh, we've sold this many records so now we don't need our fans'," laughs Puget. "It is really hard sometimes, but every show we invite our fan club into the venue after the sound check to hang out and take pictures."

PART OF the reason why AFI are so down-to-earth and so tight as a unit is because of where they grew up. Even though they may hail from California, three quarters of the band grew up in Ukiah – a redneck town north west of San Francisco – where the median household income is significantly below the state average and petty crime is rife. Probably not the safest place for a bunch of skinny, pasty-faced kids with a penchant for eyeliner, then.

"In Ukiah there was a small group of us who liked punk and we got into a lot of fights because of it," says Puget. "There were about 20 of us in the punk and skater group and not only were we up against the jocks – the perennial foe of the outsider – but there were also the metalheads who were really tough white-trash guys. On top of that there was this Mexican gang called ATC and we fought them too. It was literally war on the streets. In cities, people don't mess with you because they don't know who you are or whether you're packing a gun, but because we lived in a small town I think that people thought that they had a lot more to prove."

Burgan, who grew up in neighbouring Grass Valley, felt ostracised by his surroundings too.

"It was the same kinda environment," he shrugs. "There were six or seven of us and we were constantly getting shit from other kids or other people in the community. Once I had a guy try to run me over in his car while he was yelling derogatory terms out of the window. But it was kinda par for the course.

"There were also a lot of skinheads – both racist and non-racist skinheads. At shows the racist skinheads would jump anyone they didn't like the looks of. They hospitalised one of my friends and they beat him so badly that he had to have reconstructive surgery on his skull. I had a Mohawk at the time and it was a really, really scary time to be into punk rock."

WE ❤ AFI

MARTA, BLEEDING THROUGH

"I was a pretty weird girl when I was younger, so I really liked that dark, freaky image they had going on. My favourite song is 'The Great Disappointment' from 'Sing the Sorrow'. That really hits home for me."

JT WOODRUFF, HAWTHORNE HEIGHTS

"I don't think it's a surprise that they've done so well because they've had such a big following for so long. They've definitely been an influence on Hawthorne Heights, especially when 'Sing The Sorrow' came out."

WIL FRANCIS, AIDEN

"They've worked their fucking asses off and it's really paid off. They're one of those bands who really, truly care about their fans. They were a big influence on Aiden – I fucking love AFI."

MATT DAVIES, FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND

"I really like 'Decemberunderground'. I like all the little synth parts and the more haunting bits. Although I've got to admit I prefer their earlier stuff like 'Black Sails In The Sunset'."

SYNYSTER GATES, AVENGED SEVENFOLD

"I've been listening to AFI forever. They started the whole goth-pop-punk thing and made it popular. I'd be lying if I said they weren't an influence to us."

MIKE LEWIS, LOSTPROPHETS

"The new album's really good and I think 'Miss Murder' is a great song. Davey has the kind of voice that you either love or hate, but he's a great frontman."

BRENDON URIE, PANIC! AT THE DISCO

"I've always enjoyed them. I'm not homosexual so I don't find Davey Havok attractive. And I'm not a goth child so I'm not really into their image. It's just a really attractive sound."

SONNY MOORE, FROM FIRST TO LAST

"I really respect AFI. I can relate to Davey because of the vocal problems he had in the past. It gives me more hope for myself."

"Just because we've sold a few records it doesn't give us the right to be assholes."
DAVEY HAVOK

BACK AT the Electric Factory the doors have just opened and the assembled throng are bobbing up and down to The Smiths-ish tones of Long Island's Nightmare Of You. AFI frontman Davey Havok is slumped on a sofa in the band's dressing room starring out the window. His oversized, diamante accented sunglasses are sat next to his pink Sidekick mobile phone on the coffee table in front of him.

The band have just completed the first of today's meet and greets with members of their fan club (a grip and grin with competition winners from a local radio station is scheduled in after our interview). Havok looks visibly tired – the relentless barrage of press and promotion over the past two days has clearly chipped away at the softly-spoken singer's insouciant veneer.

"It's been non-stop," he sighs. "Lobby call yesterday was 11:45am and from then to going on stage at 9:30pm we didn't really have a moment to ourselves. MTV, Fuse TV, Sirius and XM radio, Entertainment Weekly... I can't even remember who else. We do so much press every day it's hard to remember what we've done, let alone track it down afterwards."

I ask him how he manages to maintain that all-important rock star mystique with such a rigorous timetable to adhere to.

"Apparently effortlessly," he says with a theatrical flourish.

FOR ALL his onstage bravado, in the flesh Davey Havok is polite, well-mannered and genuinely amiable. But as the singer of the most in-demand band in America, surely he's earned the right to throw full-on rock diva-esque strops?

"Not at all," he says. "Just because we've sold a few records it doesn't give us the right to be assholes. I was in the gym the other day and this guy watched me for 55 minutes and then asked for a photo. I said, 'I don't look good at the moment and so you can't have your photo taken with me,' and he seemed okay with that."

Since 'Decemberunderground' topped the US charts, debate about Havok's sexuality has once again reared its head (not least because of the album's sexually ambiguous lyrics). There is even internet fan fiction about what he and Jade Puget allegedly get up to on the tourbus. So, is he gay? Is he straight? Is he a woman trapped in a man's body? It seems that everyone has an opinion on Davey Havok apart from the man himself.

"Sometimes I'm a man's man, sometimes I'm a woman's man, but I'm definitely a cat's man," he says enigmatically. "I don't really get too involved in what people say about me, but when I hear certain things I always find it intriguing. People talk about celebrity... I just am who I am.

"The 'He' and 'She' in the chorus of 'Love Like Winter' isn't there to confuse people. It's just to make the song gender non-specific and open to a broader interpretation. I don't talk about my lyrics because I like people to be able to draw what they need from them. The meanings are multifaceted to me, but that's not to say that someone might be able to draw something from them that wasn't my personal intention."

LIKE HIS bandmates, Havok is clearly unphased by AFI's new-found fame. "It's been such a slow process for us it hasn't affected us as people," he says. "For us every step of the way has been a tremendous achievement. Being here talking to Kerrang! is an achievement. Having what we love reach so many people and to be received so well in our career makes it even better."

But when I tell him 'Decemberunderground''s latest sales figures his eyes widen.

"That *is* a lot of records," he chuckles. "I don't know how on Earth we managed to pull that off. I know our music asks a lot of someone who's into one specific genre of music to come outside of what they like and buy into what we do. We're extremely fortunate that people are able to say, 'I can sip soda and I like AFI.' or that they can look at me and say, 'That kid is a freak – but I like him'." ■

AFI TOUR THE UK IN OCTOBER. SEE VULURE P62 FOR DETAILS.

AFI (l-r): Adam, Jade, Davey, Hunter

WACKEN
AUGUST 3-5

If you thought 2006 in Germany was all about grown men chasing a football up and down a field, think again, because the town of Wacken has much darker treats in store. With a bill forged out of pure metal, highlights include Emperor, Arch Enemy, Ministry and Children Of Bodom, making way for Motörhead to show the younger noisemongers how to still cause ear damage after 30 years of rocking.
VOLCANICITY:

CARLING WEEKEND
AUGUST 25-27

The traditional end-of-summer blow-out with a jawdropping line-up that speaks for itself. Fall Out Boy, Panic! At The Disco, Muse, Aiden, Pearl Jam, Placebo, My Chemical Romance, Slayer, Bullet For My Valentine, Mastodon and Fightstar are just the tip of a particularly massive musical iceberg, and that's before we even get *started* on the manifold punk rock delights of the 'Lock Up' stage. Heaven.
VOLCANICITY:

BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR
JULY 14-15

Inspired by the old school example of Monsters Of Rock, Bloodstock has unbeatable atmosphere all of its own so far from the mainstream it practically slips over the horizon. Strictly metal, of the most unashamedly uncompromising kind, expect viking helmets aplenty as Stratovarious and Edguy bring the riffs and the metal karaoke brings the laughs. A completely independent event, it's the metal world taking matters back into its own grubby little hands.
VOLCANICITY:

TASTE OF CHAOS
NOVEMBER 10-21

In America they do festivals differently, moving the entire line-up around the country rather than pitching a tent in one place. So when the outdoor festival season's over for the year, it's good to know we've got the Taste Of Chaos heading over here here to bring the some of punk, rock and emo's most exciting bands – headed by the unstoppable Taking Back Sunday – to give the summer season a perfect encore.
VOLCANICITY:

GUILFEST
JULY 14-16

In 2004, Guilfest – on the surface a gentler proposition than many other festivals – set the official record for the 'biggest ever air guitar ensemble'. Cool. This year, infiltrating the family-friendly, endearingly schizophrenic bill, come SikTh, Bring Me The Horizon, Gary Numan, 65daysofstatic, Winnebago Deal, Breed 77, Therapy?, The Stranglers and Billy Idol to give the whole shebang a healthy, if well-meaning and affectionate, kick in the nuts.
VOLCANICITY:

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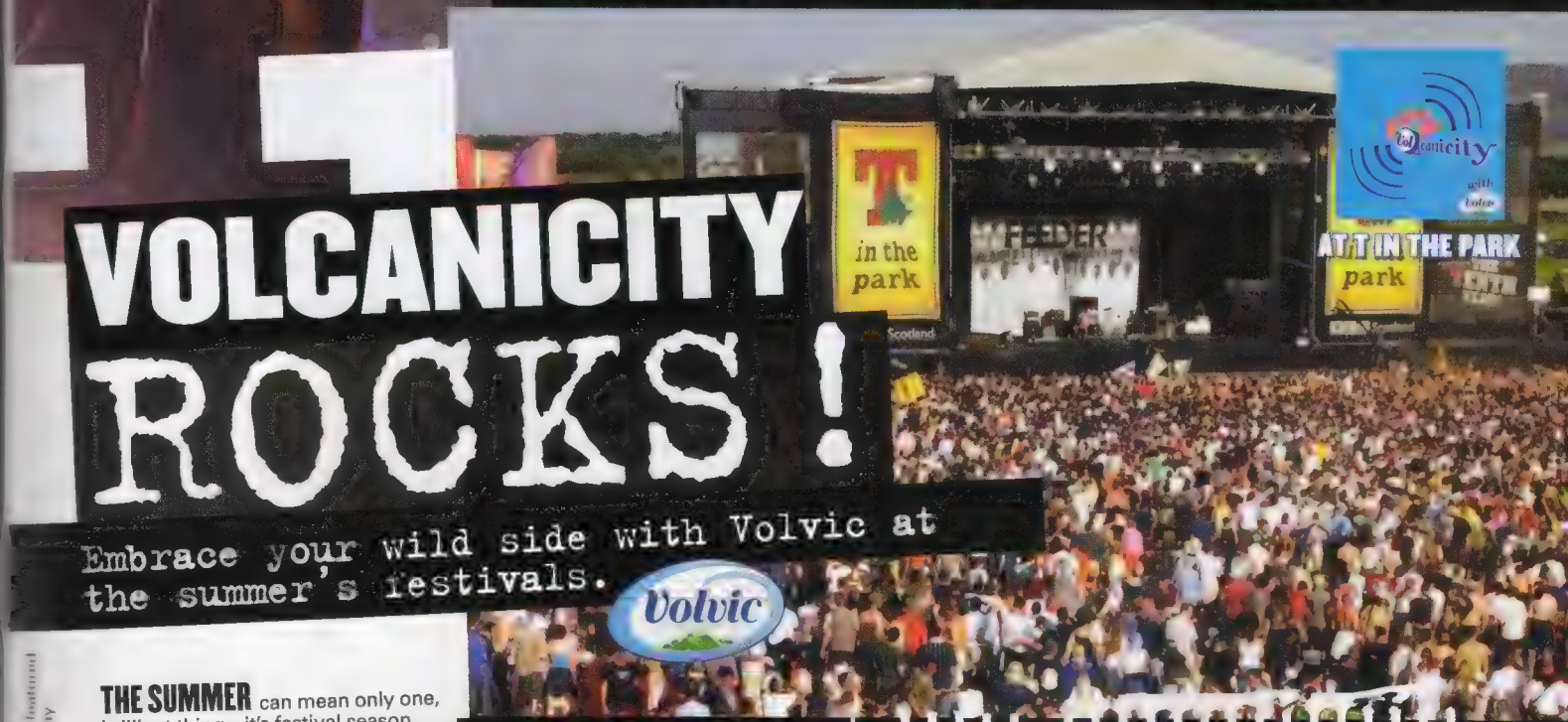

THE SUMMER can mean only one, brilliant thing – it's festival season. For at least one weekend in the year, you get the chance to delve headfirst into a makeshift community where the only thing that really matters is the mission to rock the hell out, leave all your concerns at home, make spontaneous new friends and go wild in the great outdoors. Yeah, you'll get sunburnt, rained on, or possibly both, but somehow, as the sun goes down behind the main stage and the volume goes all the way up to 11, you'll look around and see thousands of people who are 100 per cent with you when you think that this is life at its raw best. It's the feeling and attitude some people are calling Volcanity, and its set to rock the summer like it's never been rocked before...

T IN THE PARK
JULY 8 - 9

As any band who's ever played to a packed, rabid crowd at Glasgow's infamous King Tut's venue will attest, if there's one thing Scottish crowds know about, it's how to throw one almighty party. Which is why T In The Park was voted Best Major Festival in last year's UK Festival Awards. Maybe more indie than some of the season's heavier offerings, this year Red Hot Chili Peppers, Placebo, Feeder, Wolfmother and the never knowingly sane Primal Scream are on hand to crank things up to fever pitch and, no doubt, invoke the kind of raucous singalong you'd usually find in a football crowd.
VOLCANICITY:

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Words Fiona Adams. Photo Helen Rice. The people featured in this advertorial do not endorse the product in any way

TAKING BACK SUNDAY VS ANGELS AND AIRWAVES

Daryl Palumbo chills out with his mum and dad

The glamour, The debauchery.

Tom was surprisingly enthusiastic about his morning shower

WORDS: Pae Alexandre PHOTOS: Justin Borucki

'This feels e

So says Tom DeLonge of the all-star mega-tour that is tearing up America this summer. Kerrang! watched the madness unfold...

IT'S MIDDAY on a Thursday and Long Island, New York is humid as hell. Inside the Nassau Coliseum, Taking Back Sunday guitarists Fred Mascherino and Eddie Reyes are sweatily running laps around the giant circular building, closely watched by fans who've been waiting outside on the hot concrete since 6:45am. The girls are separated from their idols by a pane of tinted glass but they hold up signs as Fred and Ed pass: 'We love you Fred!' reads one, 'Where's Adam?' says another.

The Adam in question, vocalist Adam Lazzara, is sitting inside the main arena smoking a cigarette after his own morning workout, and keeping himself amused with his Sidekick. Behind him, multiple crew members are exerting themselves on the huge stage, putting together the backdrops and lights for tonight's show: day two of a 22-date jaunt across America with Angels And Airwaves, Head Automatica and The Subways. All day, the backstage area is buzzing with excitement, anticipation and last-minute organisation. While TBS get cleaned up after their work outs, Head Automatica head over to the MTV studios in Manhattan as part of their hectic promotional schedule.

"This tour is really comfortable because we already know a bunch of people," notes bassist Josh 'Jarvis' Holden on his way out. "I've known David [Kennedy, guitarist] from AVA for years so it's really great to be doing this tour together."

Meanwhile, all four members of AVA are in their comfortable dressing room trying to help bassist Ryan Sinn get rid of the blinding headache he's been dealing with all morning. Ryan lies on the ground, sunglasses on, clutching his forehead. "I'm fuckin' dying," he groans. "My eyes are fuckin' killing me."
His bandmates have some interesting solutions.

"D'you want me to give you a lap dance?" offers drummer Adam Willard dryly.
"Rub the bottoms of your feet!" pipes in David. "I'll take your boots off... I'll take your pants off!"
"Take your dick out!" laughs frontman Tom DeLonge.

The Subways too are holed up in their dressing room. The young trio – the only Brits on the tour – are thrilled to be on the line-up.

"It's so exciting," smiles bassist/vocalist Charlotte Cooper. "Playing in front of thousands of people every night is amazing. It's insane to see people camping outside venues the night before the show but that's the kind of love people have for Taking Back Sunday and Angels And Airwaves. It's a great atmosphere."

THIS WILL be the biggest punk rock tour of the summer (with the exception of the gargantuan Warped) thanks to Taking Back Sunday's increasingly gigantic profile, the ongoing buzz surrounding Angels And Airwaves and the pronounced hip-ness of Head Automatica. All three bands have released critically acclaimed albums in the last three months: TBS's 'Louder Now', released in April, has already sold over half a million copies.

Today's date in Long Island is particularly special too, thanks to the fact that both TBS and HA grew up here. This is a homecoming of spectacular proportions; one that will inspire a visibly choked-up Adam Lazzara to stop an acoustic rendition of 'Divine Intervention' halfway through tonight, to announce to 14,000 fans that he, "used to deliver deli food just a few miles from here," and that this is, "unbelievable." It is a genuinely touching moment.

For AVA, being in arenas was always part of the plan.

Adam Lazzara screams his heart out

Tom: 'I'm going to change the world!'
Adam: 'Yes mate, you already said'

Tom pretended not to hear the request for 'Fuck A Dog'

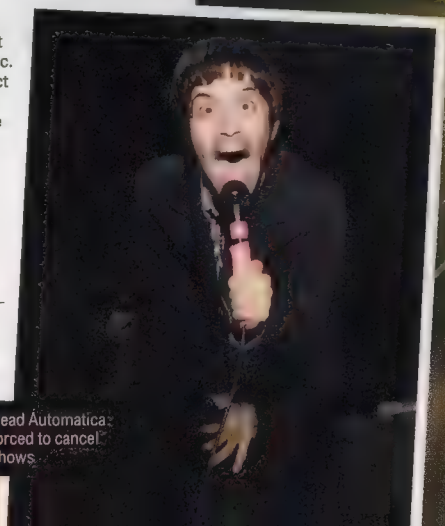
pic.'

"I'll be honest with you," shrugs Tom DeLonge, "when we made this band we were thinking of fuckin' stadiums. When Angels first started I felt so alien from my career because we were back in clubs. But now we're back here and I feel incredibly grateful to have a second chance at music. It makes me appreciate every single detail about being in a rock band. And the chance of playing in front of this many people feels epic."

And tonight Angels And Airwaves put on a breathtaking show, the venue's vast scale perfect for the scope of AVA's music. Delonge even pulls off a disappearing act halfway through the set, escaping from the stage during Box Car Racer favourite 'There Is' and emerging at the very back of the arena, in the highest row.

Until he announces, "I'm looking at you, but you're not looking at me. Turn around!" no one's even aware that he's no longer on stage, thanks to some elaborate lighting tricks. As he makes his way through the crowd, back to the stage, the response is frantic, fans charging towards him, reaching out to him, like he's some kind of deity. It's nothing short of phenomenal.

There is very real hysteria for Taking Back Sunday too. Minutes before the headliners take to the



Head Automatica forced to cancel shows

The Santa Claus impression was fooling no-one

stage in their spotless black suits, audience members in the stands abandon their designated seats and rush, *en masse*, over the barriers, while a hopelessly outnumbered security team watches on helplessly. It's a scary few moments but the fans are utterly jubilant, leaping and hugging each other as they run towards the stage.

It's also a night where every band excels. The Subways win over the crowd one fan at a time and Head Automatica inspire an unexpected circle pit – muscular men throwing hardcore dance moves to the shiny pop songs; one girl falling to her knees and singing along with an air microphone like it's the most natural thing in the world.

Backstage at the end of the night, vocalist Daryl Palumbo relaxes with his proud parents; his father Jack starting a debate about '80s haircuts, his mother Carol declaring that her son's band deserves a set longer than half an hour. Daryl is pleased with the performance but is quiet and clearly exhausted by the day's activities.

The following day, at Mansfield's Tweeter Center – a huge outdoor amphitheatre – the news slowly spreads that the night was more taxing for Daryl than anyone was expecting.

DESPITE THE biblical storm that starts date three – crew members wade through the flooded parking lot wearing nothing but shorts, to keep their clothes and shoes dry – the mood is upbeat. Adam from AVA is fooling around, at one point sneaking up behind TBS's Matt Rubano and tugging his jeans down until Matt is exposing a lot more than he should be. TBS drummer Mark O'Connell is on the phone to his aunt trying to organise how to get 14 of his cousins into the show that night, and a very chirpy Billy Lunn from The Subways is getting to know his tourmates, geeking out with HA guitarist Craig Bonich about amps.

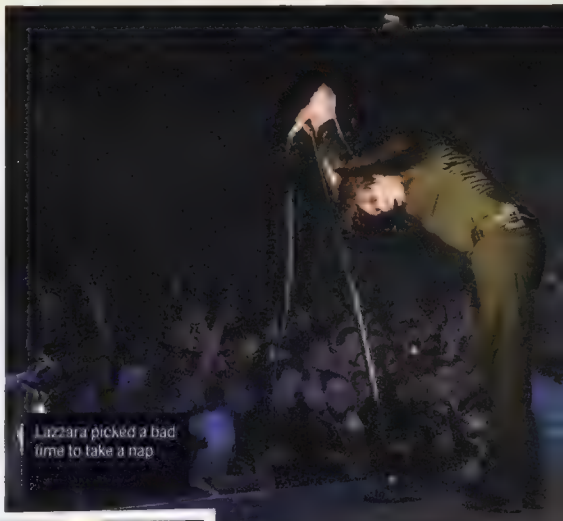
But while Taking Back Sunday obsessively iron and de-lint their shirts for tonight's performance and Angels And Airwaves watch '80s cheese-fest 'Footloose', news is slowly spreading that Daryl is stuck in New York having spent the previous night in hospital because of his ongoing battle with Crohn's disease. There is much concern – Adam Lazzara even volunteers to sing in Daryl's place for the night. Jarvis Holden is touched by the offer but says they, "could never play a show without Daryl," because he's so, "irreplaceable."

Daryl remains in hospital for another three days; his bandmates going out on stage daily to explain why they can't play and attempting to make up for it by meeting fans and signing everything in their sight. It is a deeply disappointing time for everyone, but the camaraderie between the bands and HA's open communication with the fans keeps everyone's spirits up.

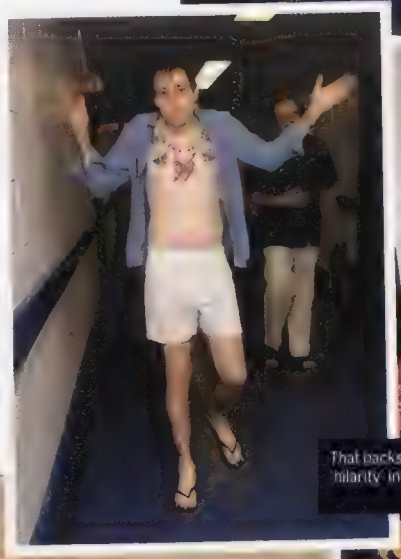
SETBACKS ASIDE, everything about this tour feels incredibly fresh. Exciting. Unpredictable. Rewind a few years and no one could've predicted that Taking Back Sunday would not only recover from the line-up changes that dogged them after their debut but would be headlining arenas. No one could've predicted that Tom DeLonge would emerge from Blink 182 with a mission to expand people's minds. No one could've known that Daryl Palumbo would quit hardcore in favour of pop melodies. But all of the above did happen, and a tour of this magnitude is proof that taking massive risks can pay off.

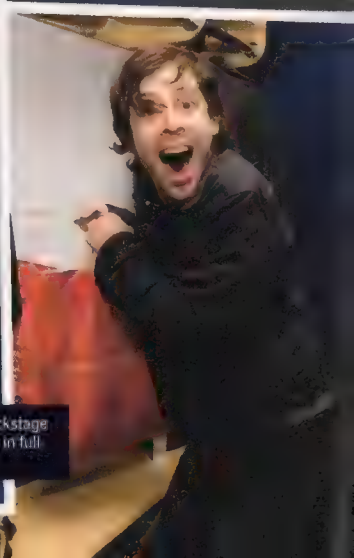
"This band is different," states DeLonge about Angels And Airwaves. "The connection we have with audiences is like nothing I've ever had in my entire career. I really feel like we're offering something – an idea or a movement. "Much like punk rock got saturated, so did the whole emo thing," he continues, "but Taking Back Sunday are doing something different. This is all something new."

He pauses. "You should come back and see what we're all doing in a couple of years," he grins, "because this is just the beginning..."



Lazzara picked a bad time to take a nap





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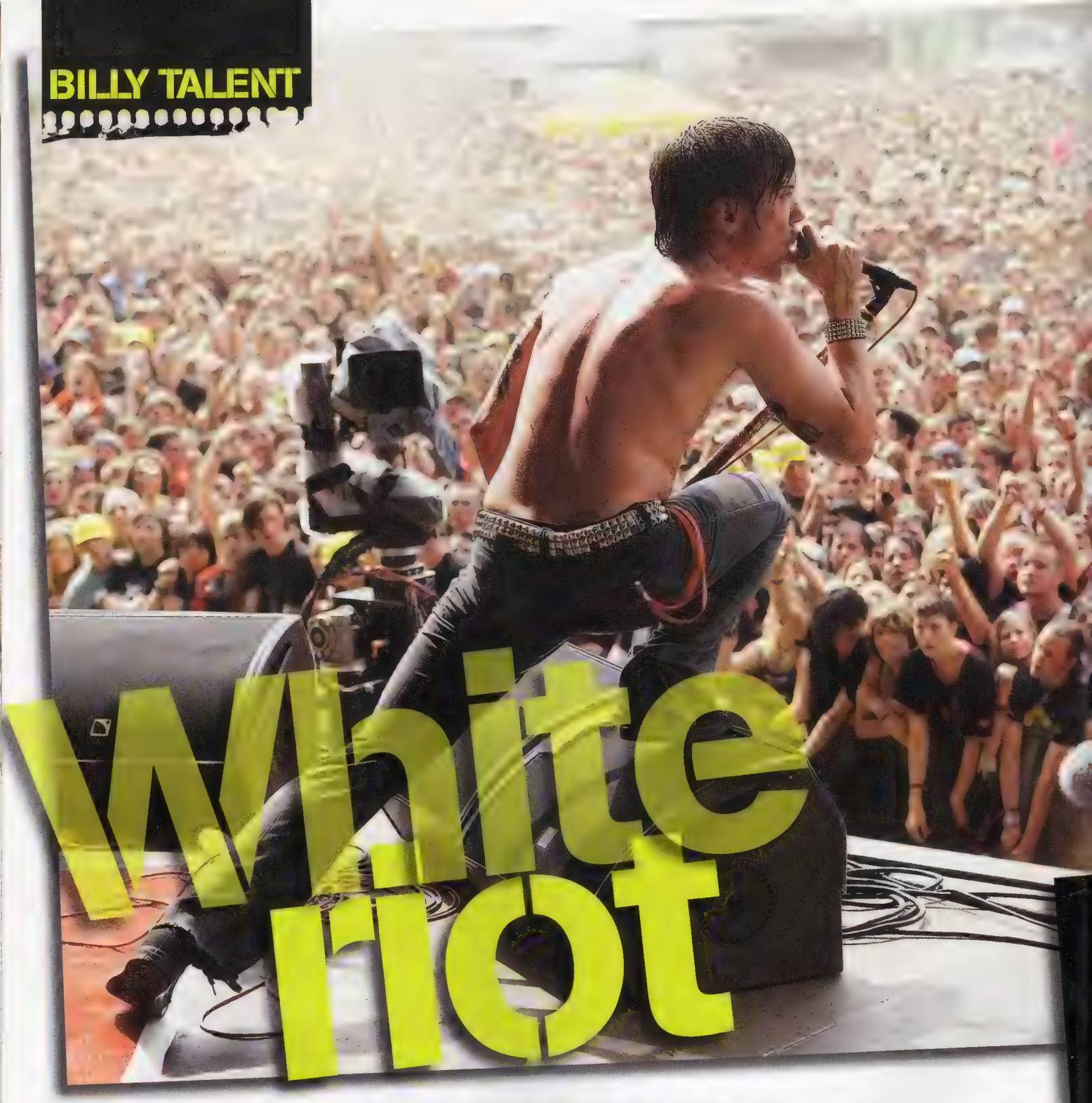


White riot

BILLY TALENT are punk rock's hottest band. It's only taken them 13 years...

Words: Luke Lewis Photos: Nick Stevens

THIS IS carnage. Billy Talent are onstage at Germany's Hurricane Festival, 30 miles southwest of Hamburg. Before them, a 50,000-strong crowd stretches to the horizon, a boiling expanse of dust and tangled limbs. The midday heat is intense. Down the front, panic-stricken security men are spraying the front rows with water. Meanwhile, the earth shakes beneath our feet from the sheer weight of bouncing bodies.

"That was incredible," gasps frontman Ben Kowalewicz, shirtless and sweat-streaked, as he leaves the stage to howls of acclaim. "One of the best shows we've ever played."

Billy Talent are getting used to such devotion. Here in Germany they are huge, their faces peering from mainstream magazine covers, their videos playlisted on MTV alongside Pink and Franz Ferdinand. It mirrors their status back home in Canada, where their self-titled debut album is certified three times platinum, affording them a level of Spinal Tap-style excess: the Toronto-based foursome arrived at a recent awards ceremony in a World War II Sherman Tank.

And now, slowly but surely, their profile is growing in the UK. In April they blitzed the second stage at Give It A Name, laying the ground for a sell-out UK tour. The response was so spectacular they instantly announced a further set of dates, this time in bigger venues. It all bodes well for their new album, 'Billy Talent II', which should see the band's hooky, spring-loaded anthems slot neatly into the post-Fall Out Boy pop-punk firmament.

"The ducks all seem to be lining up for us," grins Kowalewicz, reaching for a towel and a cold beer. "Things are finally going our way."

He doesn't say it, but the implication is clear: it's about fucking time.

AN HOUR later Billy Talent are relaxing in the air-conditioned cool of their tourbus, curtains drawn against the blistering heat. A few metres away, in the backstage enclosure, Muse – who will later be forced to cancel their headline appearance when a Biblical deluge floods the site – are watching England labour to a World Cup victory over Ecuador. There's a hazy, mid-afternoon stillness in the air as the black-clad Canadians begin their post-show celebrations.

"We're too old for debauchery," winks the singer. "But we still have our vices..."

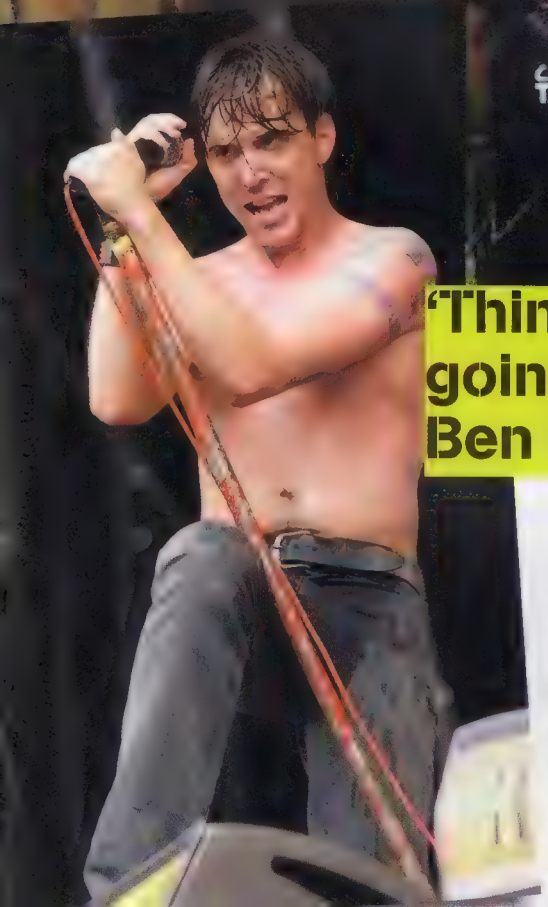
Kowalewicz does most of the talking. As you'd expect from his motormouth stage persona, the singer is a tornado of energy and charisma, spitting out anecdotes and self-deprecating jokes (no surprise, given his background in Canadian local radio). He's also leaner and sharper-looking than when we last met, at Reading 2003. You'd never guess he was approaching 31.

By contrast, guitarist Ian D'Sa makes for an unlikely rock star. Born in Ealing, West London to Indian parents (he relocated to Canada aged 4), his quiet, studious personality is at odds with the outrageous flat-top 'do' that towers above his eyebrows. A former computer animator and the band's chief songwriter, he speaks with a strong accent that twists "about" into "aboot".

Bassist Jon Gallant is more sure of himself, his hulking

Billy Talent in Scheesel, Germany, June 2006

Ian D'Sa: riff lord



'Things are finally going our way' Ben Kowalewicz

presence belying a keen intellect. A University graduate, he once had a high-flying job on the stock market, and now uses that experience to negotiate Billy Talent's financial affairs. Sat opposite him is drummer Aaron Solowoniuk, the most enigmatic member of the band. Tall and good-looking, he barely speaks, but nonetheless exudes a calm aura born of a happy home life (he's married with a daughter).

As the foursome chatter amongst themselves about the summer ahead – they can't wait to hang out with old friends Alexisonfire on the Warped Tour – it's obvious they're close friends. A tight unit.

It hasn't always been this way.

THE MEMBERS of Billy Talent met in 1993 at a high-school talent show in Mississauga, a backwater suburb of Toronto. Naming their band Pezz, they would rehearse in D'Sa's parents' basement and play tiny local shows for their friends.

Unburdened by ambition, Pezz's music was wildly unfocused – a bit of Rage Against The Machine here, a bit of ska-punk there – but it didn't matter. They were having fun.

"Those were amazing times," reminisces D'Sa. "For the first six years we were just renting out shitty little clubs, putting on our own shows, having a blast. No-one would book us to play real gigs so we would build our own stage out of hundreds of milk cartons, held together with duct tape."

It couldn't last. In 1999, with the responsibilities of adulthood beckoning, the band found themselves at a crossroads. Gallant quit to concentrate on his economics degree. D'Sa's job forced him to move to Montreal, 300 miles away. More seriously, Solowoniuk had been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, plunging him into a black depression. To this day, the drummer keeps a fridge full of medicine on the tourbus, and has to inject himself three times a week.

"I felt like my life was falling apart," he says. "None of my dreams had come true – and I now had an incurable disease."

"That was the closest we ever came to splitting up," admits Kowalewicz. "Things were looking pretty bleak."

It took a musical epiphany to rescue the band from oblivion. Isolated in Montreal, D'Sa had been turned on to the jagged post-hardcore of At The Drive-In and Refused. The guitarist was floored. He'd never hard anything so raw and passionate. Determined to push his band in a similar, hard-edged direction, he wrote a song called 'Try Honesty'. As soon as his bandmates heard it, everything fell into place.

Gallant rejoined. Kowalewicz suddenly found his voice – a distinctive, throat-ripping squawk ("like a cat in a blender," he laughs). Enthused by their new sound, the band changed their name to Billy Talent and recorded a demo, word of which soon spread through the industry. In 2002 they signed a deal with Atlantic Records, releasing their debut album the following year – a mere decade after their first gig.

Don't they ever regret the amount of time it took to 'make it'?

"Not at all," says D'Sa. "We've had to work so unbelievably hard to get where we are. But that just makes us appreciate what we've got all the more. We don't take anything for granted."

What do you think would have happened if you'd had overnight success in your teens, like Panic! At The Disco?

"Oh man," laughs Kowalewicz. "We would have overdosed! I think we probably would have died. Or at least developed some serious addictions."

He pauses, suddenly lost in thought.

"Then again, we would have slept with a lot of hot girls as well..."

Billy Talent finish their current UK dates on July 13. They return to the UK in September, see Volume for details.

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Photo: Paul Harries

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No angst. No eyeliner.

Rock of ages: The Answer (*Cormac front*)

Classic rockers THE ANSWER are old school to the core. Meet the anti-Fall Out Boy...

"A STRANGE thing is happening..." The Answer's singer Cormac Neeson leans in conspiratorially, words emerging from behind a sheaf of long, ginger hair. "...It's getting cool to like two minute guitar solos again. It's getting cool to look out from a stage and see people smiling, having a good time and getting the pints in at a gig. It's an odd thing to say but you're allowed to enjoy yourself at a gig again."

It's a view point that stands defiantly in the face of much of today's rock scene, one that's based more on fury and punk than wild soloing, howling vocals and life-affirming choruses. But, for Downpatrick, Northern Ireland's The Answer, fitting their classic rock into what's fashionable and popular right now was never an option.

"We've never looked to the current scene for our lead," says Neeson, sitting in a West London pub with the other three members of his band. "It's always been a case of playing the music we want to play. In fact, I don't think we could do anything else but play this music."

And it's a music they've been playing for six years, ever since guitarist Paul Mahon and bassist Micky Waters were told of a singer who might be the perfect man for the band they were forming. It was a band based on screaming guitars, nailed down rhythms and a respect for their influences that flirts with reverence but settles on reinvigorating a tired genre. They wrote to Neeson, then waiting tables in New York and taking odd singing spots wherever he could, and asked him to fly back and try a few songs. Appropriately enough, that first song was Free's 'Alright Now' and, with drummer James Heatley on board, they still haven't looked back.

Four years of gigging followed – a period of time that might have dented the ambition of a band not blessed with The Answer's confidence. "Aye, but we love this and believe in it," says Neeson. "You've got to enjoy playing or there's no point to it – whether that's in front of 10 people on a rainy Monday or in front of 10,000 at the London Apollo. The music we were playing didn't fit in with the latest mascara-clad scene and it meant we really had to scrape ourselves up from the bottom of the barrel; we had to really throw it in people's faces. In the end, a lot of people were coming up to us and saying, 'I didn't want to admit it but I fucking love this kind of music'..."

It means that, live, they're as tight and explosive a unit you'll find – something that has seen them pick up support slots with the likes of Whitesnake with ease. But theirs was never a background that could allow something like that to go to their heads. "We couldn't go back to Northern Ireland with a head on us," says Neeson. "If we did, they'd soon kick us back down. The Northern Irish are pretty grounded. They've given us a lot of support but they'll let you know when you're out of line."

And it's that background that shines from their music – an honesty and lack of pretence, music that isn't afraid to exist for its own sake, to just do what it says on the tin. "That's maybe because of where we're from too – they call a spade a spade there," says Neeson. "But, again, this is the only kind of music I could or would play, so I have no choice in the matter!"

'Rise' is out now on Albert Productions.

Words: Tom Bryant **Photo:** Paul Harries

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE BANDS AT THE KERRANG! AWARDS 2006

GET READY. The Kerrang! Awards 2006 are heading this way. The most prestigious and star-studded of all rock 'n' roll ceremonies will take place at a secret location in London on Thursday, August 24. Decadence and debauchery will most definitely be on the menu. And we're giving YOU the opportunity to show some love to the people who rocked your world over the past year by voting for your favourite acts. You can nominate your favourite bands in each of the following seven categories with a simple text message. The categories are:

K1 Best British Newcomer – Sponsored by MySpace.com
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K3 Best Single
K4 Best Album – Sponsored by Virgin Megastores
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K6 Best British Band – Sponsored by Roadrunner Records
K7 Best Band On The Planet

To cast your votes, simply text the K code printed beside each category along with your nomination to 88833. For example, to vote for Tool in the Best Album category text '**K4 10,000 Days**' to **88833**. Text messages are charged at your standard network operator rate.

You can also cast your votes at www.kerrang.com and at www.myspace.com. If, however, the idea of embracing modern technology brings you out in a cold sweat, don't stress. Get a pen and do it the old fashioned way via the medium of the voting form at the bottom of this page. Once you've filled it in, post it back to us at: *Kerrang! Awards 2006, Kerrang!, PO Box 2930, London, W1A 6DZ.*

Every person who votes and is over 18 years of age will also be in with a chance to win their very own table at this year's ceremony. Yes, you and nine (count them, nine!) of your mates could be rubbing shoulders with the biggest names in rock at the Kerrang! Awards 2006! We will pick the ridiculously lucky winner at random from all the people who vote by text, voting form, via kerrang.com and myspace.com. Good luck!

Each reader who votes for the Best Album will also receive a free WAP link to the Kerrang! Virgin Mobile portal, giving you the opportunity to browse information on bands, download wallpapers and ringtones. Sweet.

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Over 18s only will be entered into competition draw. The winner will be picked at random at the Kerrang! Day Of Rock (date TBC) and will be notified by telephone by August 17. Closing date for this competition is August 7. Prize does not include transportation or accommodation.

'We're not your average Christian band'

Words: Rae Alexandra Photo: Lisa Johnson

The gospel according to fast-rising screamo saviours UNDEROATH

"Are we workaholics?" ponders Underoath vocalist Spencer Chamberlain. "Um... We're more playaholics I guess!"

Spencer, for the record, is exhausted. He and the rest of the Tampa, Florida sextet are currently coping with the notoriously rigorous Warped Tour schedule. This would probably be fine had they not spent their first day off flying to their hometown, playing a surprise show and then flying straight back to Warped to play another show.

"Yeah," sighs Spencer. "I'm pretty tired. We're all really sleep-deprived."

You'd think they'd be used to it by now. This is a band that loathe being off tour so much that they don't even take time off to write music – they do it on the road, as they go. And all that work is starting to pay off. Their second full length 'They're Only Chasing Safety' sold in excess of 500,000 copies, and their recently-released third effort, the explosive 'Define The Great Line', is expected to take them to the big leagues, despite the band so far shunning mainstream exposure.

"Radio and MTV never got behind us because we're too heavy," Spencer explains. "If people get behind us that's cool but only if everything's kept the way we intended. With the last record they wanted us to do radio edits for songs and we fought it and fought it until eventually they gave up. I mean, I just don't think that compromise is necessary to survive as a band. There are no good radio stations out there anyway. We're not trying to please anybody but ourselves. The primary focus for us is our personal beliefs."

And those beliefs have also been the source of controversy, thanks to their well-documented faith.

"We're not your average Christian band," explains Spencer, "but a big part of our goal as a band is to change the idea of what Christianity has become and what people think it is. We're all honest, loving and respectful people. And whatever preconceptions people have of us are usually changed as soon as they meet us. We don't write worship songs, but it's an integral part of who we are and why we do this. It doesn't matter if we don't have the same belief systems as our fans because we can respect them and hopefully they can respect us because they like our music."

Underoath aren't afraid to shout about charitable causes too. The inlay to 'Define The Great Line' features URLs for websites that seek to raise money for women fighting breast cancer, and to highlight the plight of youth in war-torn Uganda, among others. Fighting to defend their beliefs has left the six band members – who all met "through friends of friends in High School and through local bands" – a

Underoath (Gillespie and Chamberlain centre): 'OK, but no tongues.'

tighter group. The thoughtful frontman talks about his bandmates fondly.

"All of us are very different with very different backgrounds and different responses to everything, but we all have the same goal," he says. "Each of us brings something different and we all have equal input. Tim [McTague, guitar] is really mellow, Chris [Dudley, keyboards] is the people guy, Grant [Brandell, bass] is the nerd who doesn't know he's the nerd, James [Smith, guitar] is the ultra quiet one and Aaron [Gillespie, drums] is the drama queen. But we are one unit."

With Warped Tour head honcho Kevin Lyman predicting Underoath will be the breakout band of the summer, gushing reviews abounding for 'Define...' and an upcoming stint on the UK 'Taste Of Chaos' tour, alongside Taking Back Sunday, it's fair to say that Underoath are headed for great things.

Spencer remains modest.

"Our goal isn't to be the biggest band in the world," he shrugs. "A lot of kids out there now are trying to be the next MCR. That's not our goal. There are a lot of radio rock-pop bands that aren't challenging kids to try something new. But we want to open people's minds. We just want people who love our songs to come see us. It's that simple. Whether that's a thousand kids or 500,000 kids it's all fine to us..."

Underoath play Taste Of Chaos in November. See Volume for details.

† Like Atreyu, Underoath divide their vocals between frontman Spencer Chamberlain (who does the screaming) and drummer Aaron Gillespie (who sings the melodic choruses).

† Gillespie suffers from Generalised Anxiety Disorder. "It'll last for weeks sometimes. I feel like I'm having a heart attack."

† Underoath's earliest releases were recorded with a different vocalist, Dallas Taylor. Personal conflicts within the band forced him to quit, mid-tour, in 2003.

† During a Hallowe'en show in New Jersey the band dressed up as Slipknot and opened their set with a cover of the masked legends' hit 'Duality'.

† In America 'Define The Great Line' sold almost 100,000 copies in its first week of release.

† The album was produced by Killswitch Engage guitarist Adam Dutkiewicz. "He's one of our favourite people in the world," says Chamberlain. "It was just like hanging out with one of your great friends."

† Underoath were offered deals with major labels but turned them down in order to retain creative control. "We're not Fall Out Boy," explains guitarist Tim McTague. "They're great but that's not what we're aspiring to be at all."

† Gillespie has a side project called The Almost. Check out their melodic emo online at www.myspace.com/thealmost.

KKKKK INCREDIBLE
KKKK GREAT
KKK FAIR
KK POOR
K RUBBISH

Youth Gone Mild

DEVIN TOWNSEND RUNS OUT OF STEAM ON ALBUM NUMBER FIVE

STRAPPING YOUNG LAD

THE NEW BLACK
(CENTURY MEDIA)

KKK

WHEN KERRANG! spoke with Devin Townsend just a week after Strapping Young Lad's triumphant spot at Download this year, the frontman and creative brains behind the Canadian metallers sounded like he had run out of steam. Exhausted from months of combining work on the new Strapping album with his solo and production commitments, he said the band's upcoming US Ozzfest tour would be their last for a while – and given that 'The New Black' completes their five-album contract with Century Media, it's the perfect opportunity to take a break and try to reconnect with what it was that inspired him to create music in the first place. Astonishingly, for a man who has spent the majority of the past decade churning out myriad quality metal albums and producing landmark releases by the likes of Lamb Of God, Darkest Hour and Soilwork, he admitted that his desire to even pick up a guitar had recently deserted him.

It makes sense, then, that with 'The New Black' Townsend wanted to return to the sound of the band's first album, 1995's 'Heavy As A Really Heavy Thing'; a time when metal was still fresh and exciting to him. Accordingly, it crackles with the same sense of humour and irony of that debut – see the ballistic 'You Suck', complete with chants of '*You and your band, you fuckin' suck!*' and the sensationally potty-mouthed couplet '*Even your girlfriend fuckin' sucks/Hell yeah, she fuckin' sucks/Fuck you, you fuckin' fuck/Hell yeah, you fuckin' suck!*'. There is, however, a lot more to album number five than gags.

> "Falls short of the classic SYL are capable of"

Indeed it's impossible to deny the power of songs such as 'Anti-product' or 'Wrong Side', each a sonic maelstrom of Gene Hoglan's furious double-kick drumming, Jed Simon's tear-your-face-off riffing and the sort of explosive guitar solos DragonForce would be in awe of. 'Far Beyond Metal', meanwhile, is a song so bombastic and complex it's more like a mini metal opera with the volume set to 11; a testament to Townsend's towering songwriting vision.

Frustratingly, though, 'The New Black' falls short of being the stone cold classic Strapping Young Lad are clearly capable of. Intense, powerful and noisier than a buck's night in Hell, sure, but where peers such as Arch Enemy and In Flames harness their racket and focus it into a memorable metallic concoction, SYL's unrelenting brand of chaos, while amazing to witness, is difficult to remember once the last note has faded.

It's a problem that's plagued the band throughout their career, and should 'The New Black' really prove to be their last album for some time, it's a shame that it couldn't rectify the situation.

DOWNLOAD: 'You Suck', 'Far Beyond Metal', 'The New Black'.

FOR FANS OF: Soilwork, Arch Enemy.

ROD YATES

HARDCORE SUPERSTAR
HARDCORE SUPERSTAR
(ABSTRACT)

KKKKK

GLAM ROCK UNDERDOGS DESTROY ALL-COMERS.

ROUTINELY DERIDED as sleaze rock also-rans, Hardcore Superstar's music has never really matched their heroic levels of confidence. Until now. If this album had come out in the '80s, the Swedes could now be as iconic as Guns N'Roses. A barnstorming, 12-track glitter-ball, this is a staggering work of party metal perfection, bulging with immense choruses and gleaming fuck 'n' fight riffs. Every track, from the gloriously dumb 'Bag On Your Head' to the Mötley Crüe-with-twitching-knobs on anthem 'My Good Reputation', could be a radio-mauling single. All killer, no filler. Victory snatched from the jaws of defeat. Incredible.

DOWNLOAD: 'My Good Reputation'.

FOR FANS OF: Mötley Crüe, Backyard Babies.

DOM LAWSON

VARIOUS
CHOP YOUR OWN HEAD OFF
(EARACHE)

KKKK

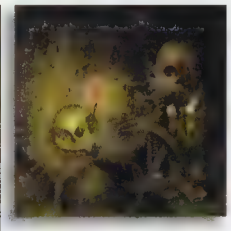
BRITAIN'S LOUDEST LABEL SHOWS OFF ITS WARES.

PERHAPS THE most enduring metal label in the world, Earache are no strangers to high quality noise. From the sonic A-bombs of Carcass and Napalm Death's early grindings, to Cathedral's bowel-quaking doom, the technical death metal of Decapitated, and the horrific filth of Iron Monkey, the standards of the Nottingham label have been consistently top drawer. So, whether you're into immense technicality (Anata), mind-bending psych (Cult Of Luna), or furious, filthy grind (Mistress), this will sort you right out. And the video for Municipal Waste's 'Unleash The Bastards' is worth asking price on its own.

DOWNLOAD: Mistress 'At Arms Length'.

FOR FANS OF: Deicide, Cult Of Luna.

NICK RUSSELL



ALOVE FOR ENEMIES
RESISTANCE
(FACEDOWN)

KK

METALCORE, YOU'RE BECOMING A BORE.

THERE'S NOTHING wrong with Alove For Enemies' metal-influenced NY hardcore. Their second album 'Resistance' is packed full of chugging riffs, throat ripping vocals and punishing beat-downs but there is absolutely nothing you haven't heard many times before. Metalcore is bursting at the seams with identikit bands who add nothing new and in any genre of music, that usually marks the end of the journey. Despite a powerful production job from Sick Of It All and Most Precious Blood man Dean Baltulonis and an admittedly ferocious performance from the band, 'Resistance' fails to really inspire or excite.

DOWNLOAD: 'Wishes For The Cloths Of Heaven'.

FOR FANS OF: Shai Hulud, Most Precious Blood.

JAMES SHERRY

SCARECROWN
'TIL THE LAST BREATH
(CASKET)

K

FINE SINGER CANNOT SAVE LACUNA COIL IMPERSONATORS.

AS PAINFUL as it is, listening to bands this bad can be good for your musical education. Watching a dodgy pop-punk fiasco at your local will make you realise, grudgingly, that Fall Out Boy aren't that bad. Likewise, if you ever doubted Lacuna Coil's prowess, enjoy this five-track shocker from ScareCrown, an act of similar intent with absolutely none of the pay-off. The talented and beautiful Antonella Buosi is the innocent party, engaging her wasted vocal skills on some abysmal songs – tunes you could have bettered in five minutes over a beer in the garden. This is plodding Euro-goth, trying to mimic Lacuna Coil's every move and failing drastically. Don't wait in vain for a chorus – it's not coming.

DOWNLOAD: 'Pathos X'.

FOR FANS OF: Within Temptation, Lullacry.

STEVE BEEBEE

TWIN ZERO
THE TOMB TO EVERY HOPE
(UNDERGROOVE)

KKKK

WHEN A band's talent pool contains a founding member who composes 30-minute sonic soundscapes with two drummers and a similarly talented frontman, something large inevitably looms around the corner. In Twin Zero's case it was last year's 'Monolith' debut. 'The Tomb...' is another vast, imaginative venture that sees composer-in-chief Reuben Gotto avoid TZ becoming simply longer and louder than everyone else. Karl Middleton unleashes his full vocal range, allowing him to inject further melody and subtlety into the mix. The influence of Tool and Neurosis is stamped all over TZ's sound, but what allows them to impress is their desire to create something fresh, new and different.

DOWNLOAD: 'Static Reigns I'.

FOR FANS OF: Neurosis, Tool.

ALISTAIR LAWRENCE

The Eyes Have It

MIKE PATTON IN 'ALBUM FULL OF TUNES' SHOCK

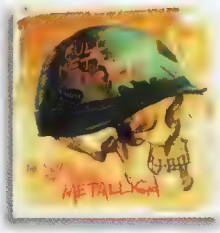
PEEPING TOM
PEEPING TOM
(IPECAC)
KKKK

DURING THE recording of Faith No More's 1992 opus, 'Angel Dust', producer Matt Wallace once remarked of Mike Patton that, whether the frontman liked it or not, he was 'built' to sing. Given that the majority of Patton's post-FNM career has been marked by an avalanche of activity that has seen its diversity matched only by a pathological aversion to commercial song, you can safely assume just which side of the statement Patton came down on.

Which is why Peeping Tom has been one of his most anticipated releases. Billed by its maker as, "pop songs for fun", this is the most accessible and uniformly tuneful the singer has sounded in a decade. Not that his version of pop has much to do with Britney Spears. Here, the cleanly stacked choruses and catchy refrains are backed by a host of collaborators including rapper Kool Keith, Bristol trip-hoppers Massive Attack and MOR songstress Norah Jones, while the music heaves under a darkly hued mix of stuttering loops and beats with occasional guitars for good measure. As you might expect from one with such a famed short-attention span, he's still left himself plenty of room for manoeuvre – 'Getaway' shudders under a distorted hip-hop base, 'Your Neighbourhood Spaceman' drifts by in a blissful summer haze, 'We're Not Alone' is the closest he's come to acknowledging the riff-cranked poison of FNM, while his trademark lyrical perversity is never far away. On a major label with the right promotion muscle, this could shift some serious units. As it is, you can only hope that this fleeting chance to see why Patton is still one of the most celebrated vocalists in rock will attract an audience of more than just the faithful.

DOWNLOAD: 'Mojo', 'Your Neighborhood Spaceman'.
FOR FANS OF: Faith No More.

CATHERINE YATES



VARIOUS ARTISTS
FULL METAL GARAGE: THE SONGS THAT DROVE METALLICA
(SANCTUARY)
KKK

NEVER MIND THE COVERS, HERE'RE THE ORIGINALS...

IT'S SUCH an obvious idea: two discs packed with the original versions of the songs that Metallica have covered throughout their history. An invaluable companion to 'Garage Inc', 'Full Metal Garage...' is full of great music from the likes of Motörhead, Thin Lizzy, Discharge, Lynyrd Skynyrd and The Misfits. What it lacks, unfortunately, is anything resembling coherence, so it sounds more like a compilation tape thrown together in a drunken stupor than a well-balanced selection of classic rock tunes. Anything that contains a fistful of iron-clad anthems by the magnificent Diamond Head is worth every penny, however.

DOWNLOAD: 'Helpless'.
FOR FANS OF: Metallica.

DOM LAWSON

COLDSEED
COMPLETION MAKES THE TRAGEDY
(NUCLEAR BLAST)
KKK

EURO-ROCK COLLABORATIVE MERGE METAL WITH MELODY.

FRONTED BY Soilwork vocalist Björn Strid, this one-off project alongside members of Blind Guardian does not deviate far from the formula fans will be familiar with. Switching from mountainous heaviness to clean harmonising, this is one of the better metal crossover albums of the year, although it lacks any big rock moments to break from the crowd. It differs from Soilwork in its copious use of keyboards and occasional parps of synths. 'Low' delivers it fast and hard with Strid emoting with all the subtlety of a bull mastiff, contrasting with the tranquil, Opeth-style 'Reflection'. It's a jarring combination of styles – and one the band pull off with reasonable panache.

DOWNLOAD: 'Democracy Lesson'.
FOR FANS OF: Soilwork, Opeth.

STEVE BEEBEE

ANATA
THE CONDUCTOR'S DEPARTURE
(EARACHE)
KKKK

STEEL-FINGERED DEATH METAL.

FROM THE moment the snarling, discordant riffs of album-opener 'Downward Spiral Into Madness' fade in you know you're getting something different. Anata have always prided themselves on their technical and inventive song structures. But where 2003's 'Under A Stone With No Inscription' may have wandered too far into 'look what I can do' territory, '...Departure' is a marvellously imaginative but fierce display of just how downright fascinating death metal sounds when played by the right hands. Anata, simply, are supreme masters of technical death metal, and this is their ultimate statement.

DOWNLOAD: 'Downward Spiral Into Madness', 'The Conductor's Departure'.
FOR FANS OF: Necrophagist, Cryptopsy.

ALEXANDER MILAS

THE PSYKE PROJECT
DAIKINI
(CPH-SOUND)
KKKK

DANISH HARDCORE UNIT HOLLER INTO THE DARKNESS.

YOU COULD be forgiven for thinking the worst of a misspelled band name with 'I'm mad, me' connotations. Luckily, this isn't some hideous funk metal retread, but instead one of the bleakest records you'll hear this year. The sort of hardcore band who doff their cap to avant-doom metal and Neurosis, The Psyke Project are here to single-handedly ruin your summer. Oppressive riffs pile up until they're burying you alive. Vocals swiftly cease sounding human, becoming another element in the wall of noise which is currently collapsing on your head. All of this is, of course, a recommendation. Enjoy, you sick fucks.

DOWNLOAD: 'Fimbul'.
FOR FANS OF: Neurosis, Cult Of Luna.

OLLY THOMAS

PEACHES
IMPEACH MY BUSH
(XL)

KKK

THE DIRTY DIVA STRIKES AGAIN

GIVEN 2004'S sensitively-titled 'Fatherfucker' LP boasted a cover shot of its creator sporting a full beard, and a content that matched a decidedly uninhibited take on sexual politics to a floor-humping backbone of minimal beats and maximum attitude, you could say that Peaches knows a thing or two about getting attention.

Sustaining it however, may prove to be the greater challenge. While her third outing doesn't exactly tone things down (choice topics include guy-on-guy action and an ode to three-fingered sexual entry), this time the music offers too little spin on its electro-punk sleaze to maintain it much past the halfway mark. Lucky then, it's a first half of fabulously filthy fun.

DOWNLOAD: 'Tent In Your Pants', 'Slippery Dick'.
FOR FANS OF: Princess Superstar, Atari Teenage Riot.

CATHERINE YATES

LACRIMAS PROFUNDERE
FILTHY NOTES FOR FROZEN HEARTS
(NAPALM)

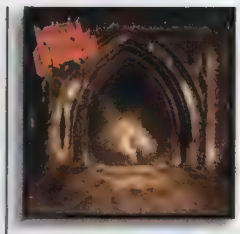
KK

GLOOMY GERMANS JOIN THE GOTH ROCK DOTS.

WITH SEVERAL albums already notched up, you might expect vampiric rockers Lacrimas Profundere to menace and thunder like the bands they so admire. In contrast, what's here is just miserablism for the sake of it. 'Filthy Notes' wants to be HIM and whatever production gloss has been applied to the impressive guitar work, the dour vocals reduce everything to a hazy, monotone snooze-athon. First single 'Again It's Over' sounds hopeful until its mediocre, goth-u-like chorus pops up to keep things flat as a pancake. A certain something of the night is all they have – so eat Italian and ward them off with garlic breath.

DOWNLOAD: 'Again It's Over'.
FOR FANS OF: Type O Negative, Sentenced.

STEVE BEEBEE



METAL CHURCH
A LIGHT IN THE DARK
(SPV)

KKK

US THRASH VETERANS NARROWLY MISS THE TARGET.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS on from their classic debut album, Metal Church are still plugging valiantly away, sounding much fresher than perhaps you might expect. Their eighth studio effort is their best album for a long while; a sturdy, uncomplicated slab of dark, melodic metal that inhabits the same middle ground between the old and new schools that bands like Judas Priest, Saxon and Iced Earth have exploited in recent times. The only problem is that it does go on a bit. 'Temples Of The Sea' is at least two minutes too long, and several other tracks outstay their welcome. This is a good album, then, but an opportunity missed.

DOWNLOAD: 'Beyond All Reason'.
FOR FANS OF: Saxon, Judas Priest.

DOM LAWSON

Earning Their Wings
A MASTERCLASS IN PURE ROCK 'N' ROLL

WINNEBAGO DEAL
FLIGHT OF THE RAVEN
(FIERCE PANDA)

KKKK

FOR ALL the technical supremacy and enviable musicianship of those artists who constantly endeavour to push the envelope into next year, there's always, *always* going to be room at the musical table for the 'other' kind. The ones that revel in simplicity, who play with more than just their brains and fingers, whose music is forged, not of flashy playing, but of pure heart, passion, and giant hairy bollocks. There may be only two of them, but Oxford's champions of stripped-down, full-throttle rock 'n' roll Winnebago Deal are the living, snorting, fire-breathing embodiment of exactly how thrilling such a racket can be.

If you've ever been turned on by the sound of a guitar cranked way beyond what's decent, 'Flight Of The Raven' is right up your street. It's everything that's great and exhilarating about rock 'n' roll turned up to the max and delivered with no other purpose than the sake of rock 'n' fucking roll, louder than Motörhead, heavier than Fu Manchu, and swimming in more hard-skinned attitude than Dukes Of Nothing. And that's *before* Nick Oliveri turns up to lend a hand on 'Czechoslovakia'. Yes, it's simple, and yes, you've heard it all before. But there's enough fiery, relentless fanaticism coming from these two blokes to power five Slipknots. And if that doesn't push your buttons, check your pulse: you may well be dead.

DOWNLOAD: 'With Friends Like These', 'Czechoslovakia'.
FOR FANS OF: Motörhead, Black Flag.

NICK RUSKELL

MOST WANTED
GREAT ALBUMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

AVE COALITION

LOSTPROPHETS
LIBERATION TRANSMISSION

MUSE
BLACK HOLES AND REVELATIONS

UNDERCOATH
WE'RE THE GREAT DIVIDE

RATED ALBUMS

VIDEO

36 CRAZYFISTS
I'LL GO UNTIL MY HEART STOPS
(ROADRUNNER)

KKKK

ALASKA'S FINEST METALLERS MAKE A BLISTERING RETURN

IN CONTRAST to the fun and karate frolics of the popular 'Bloodwork' video, 'I'll Go Until My Heart Stops' shows the bleaker side to the 36 Crazyfists psyche. As dark and mysterious as frontman Brock Lindow's lyrics, it's a kidnap story with a twist. And perhaps testament to 36CF's more sensitive side, it's one where the girl takes on the boys and wins. Whisked off her feet – but not in a good way – and unceremoniously bundled into a transit van, our unfortunate hostage proceeds to kick her captors' arses. Good girl!

36CF's new album, 'Rest Inside The Flames' is out now. They return to the UK in September, touring with Atreyu. Check Volume for details.

CAREN GIBSON

THE OTHER
WE ARE WHO WE EAT
(FIENDFORCE)

KK

HAMFISTED HORROR PUNK SHENANIGANS.

THE BEST thing about 'We Are Who We Eat' is the booklet's strikingly graphic portraits of the band members indulging in gruesome horror poses. The music itself is less scary. In fact, it's pretty hilarious. Vocalist Roderick Usher's resemblance to 1920's horror star Lon Chaney appears to be the only reason he's been recruited given his woeful voice, but he's evidently a hit with the ladies. '*I'm gonna cut her throat tonight*,' the silver-tongued charmer purrs on 'Lover's Lane'. Return the costumes and warpaint to Marilyn Manson and what's left is an average punk band with a set of clunky and lyrically awful tunes. It's harmless enough, but you deserve more bang for your buck.

DOWNLOAD: 'Hallow's Eve'.
FOR FANS OF: Murderdolls, Misfits.

STEVE BEEBEE

VARIOUS ARTISTS
DRUM MACHINE GUN
(RELAPSE)

KK

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S MUSIC: VOLUME 11.

ANYONE WHO witnessed Atari Teenage Riot's 1999 support slot to Nine Inch Nails remembers 40 minutes of deranged digital abuse that felt like being fed into an industrial press. 'Drum Machine Gun' brings back convulsion-inducing memories of that night – only this is *73* Godless minutes. Collecting together artists who make computerised aural defilement their stock in trade, this makes The Red Chord sound like church music – sonic napalm to throw at anyone who's *really* pissed you off. It ain't music, it's an offensive weapon and depending on your mood, it's either sheer genius or a total skullfucking nightmare.

DOWNLOAD: Doesn't matter, it all hurts as much...
FOR FANS OF: Agoraphobic Nosebleed, Prosthetic C**t.

DAN SLESSOR

GORGOROTH
AD MAJOREM SATHANAS GLORIAM
(REGAIN)

KKKK

COLOSSAL SOUNDS FROM THE BLACK METAL OVERLORDS.

FOR ALL the myths surrounding these Norwegian antiheroes – from tales of sheep heads on stakes to allegations of genuine evil like rape or singer Gaahl's conviction and imprisonment for beating the piss out of someone – it's easy to forget that Gorgoroth are really just a band. Sure, they may be assholes, but they're also capable of some of the most sublimely bleak and menacing sounds to ever come out of Norway. And with 'Ad Majorem...' they've crafted a masterpiece. From the lock-step militarism of 'Carving A Giant' to the undiluted, white-noise wrath of 'White Seed', the only flaw here is that it's over in just 31 minutes.

DOWNLOAD: 'Carving a Giant', 'Wound Upon Wound'.
FOR FANS OF: 1349, Satyricon.

ALEXANDER MILAS

THE WIRELESS STORES
DUST GHOSTS
(IN AT THE DEEP END)

KKK

NOTTINGHAM QUINTET ARE A BIT SMART ON FULL-LENGTH DEBUT.

FRONTED BY Paul Yeadon of alt-rock nearly-men Bivouac, The Wireless Stores are so sharp they might cut themselves. They spin out wry tales of everyday life, from the superstition-shattering opener '43 Pence Worth Of Luck' to the country-tinged 'Chewing Gum Stars', with its view of life from beneath a bar table. But 'Dust Ghosts' is about much more than revelling in a cleverness that fans of lyrical manipulation will adore. Musically, WS peddle dusty, harmonic Americana that belies their hometown. Gentle, subtle and far from aggressive, this is music for cold beers on hot days, watching the world go by and finding humour in the weird way it works.

DOWNLOAD: 'The Unlikely Cavalry', 'Chewing Gum Stars'.
FOR FANS OF: Mojave 3, Cursive.

EMMA JOHNSTON

DECKS OF DOOM
WHAT'S ROCKING THE K! STEREOS THIS WEEK

SIMON YOUNG

DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN 'PLAGIARISM' (RELAPSE)
New Jersey mosh-ematicians lovingly cover Justin Timberlake's 'Like I Love You' and Nine Inch Nails' 'Wish' on this iTunes-only release.

TANNER 'ILL GOTTEN GAINS' (CAROLINE)
Twisty discordant punk rock from the late San Diego three-piece. Check out the opening track 'Hey Jigsaw' and try *not* to buy the album.

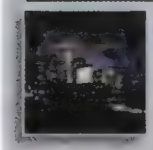
BRIAN POSEHN 'LIVE IN: NERD RAGE' (RELAPSE)
Metal devotee and self-confessed nerd Brian Posehn – whose track 'Dork For Thirty Years' was featured on a K! podcast last year – will release his brilliant comedy debut through Relapse this August.

SCARLET BORG

SLAYER 'SOUTH OF HEAVEN' (AMERICAN RECORDINGS/DEF JAM)
The soundtrack for serial killers.

DARKTHRONE 'A BLAZE IN THE NORTHERN SKY' (PEACEVILLE)
True Norwegian black metal.

IN FLAMES 'COME CLARITY' (NUCLEAR BLAST)
In 2006 the enduring Swedes' produced possibly *the* metal album of the year.



ALISTAIR LAWRENCE

LIAM (PRODIGY) 'BACK TO MINE' (DMC)
Eclectic mixtape from the Prodge mainman, worth picking up for his floor-shaking Method Man remix.

MAPS AND ATLASES 'TREES, SWALLOWS, HOUSES' (SELF-RELEASE)
Debut EP from yelping Chicago mathcore heroes. Jagged and bittersweet, like a deformed grapefruit. But tastier.

THE TWILIGHT SINGERS 'POWDER BURNS' (ONE LITTLE INDIAN)
Greg Dulli's back, and he's still cooler than your favourite rock star. Get over it and check this out.

PSYCHOPATHIC TERROR
FUCKER
(SERPENT'S EYE)

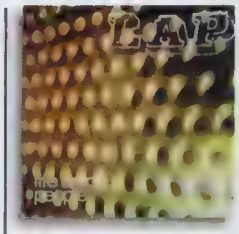
KK

OLD SCHOOL DEATH THAT THINKS INSIDE THE BOX.

A SIDE-PROJECT formed by members of bands that you almost certainly won't care about, Psychopathic Terror play filthy, shambolic death metal that unites the breakneck clatter of Dismember with the sludgy alcoholic sprawl of Autopsy. As such, it's a wholly derivative exercise in brainless dicking about; entertaining in a superficial and primitive kind of way, but a long way from truly satisfying. There are some great riffs – 'Renaissance Of Your Life (A Bloodbath)' boasts several – but the harsh reality is that ideas conceived while drunk often have trouble standing up.

DOWNLOAD: 'Renaissance Of Your Life (A Bloodbath)'.
FOR FANS OF: Dismember, Autopsy.

DOM LAWSON



LAP
LIFE AMONG PEOPLE
(DISTORT MANCHESTER)

KKK

IMPRESSIVE SOUNDS FROM MANCUNIAN ROCKERS.

IT'S A shit business. LAP are hardly the only band struggling to make ends meet, but the result of their struggles is a victory worth sharing. With a broad palette, they defy pigeonholing while wielding undeniable power. Opener 'I Am' could fit onto the new Lostprophets album; elsewhere, a metalcore attack morphs backwards and forwards into soaring, accessible rock, while still finding space for gentler, more understated passages. By refusing to stick to one genre, LAP succeed in creating something that exists outside the hive mentality prevalent in much of the rock scene right now. 'Life Among People' is high on energy and packed with promise; seek it out.

DOWNLOAD: 'I Am'.
FOR FANS OF: Lostprophets, Therapy?.

OLLY THOMAS

HEADS UP!

NEW MUSIC COMING YOUR WAY...

JULY 17
- ALL THAT REMAINS, 'The Fall Of Ideals'

JULY 24
- DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL, 'Dusk And Summer'

JULY 31
- STONE SOUR, 'Come What (Ever) May'

AUGUST 14
- UNEARTH, 'III: In The Eyes Of Fire'

AUGUST 21
- SLAYER, 'Christ Illusion'

AUGUST 28
- MOTÖRHEAD, 'Kiss Of Death'

SEPTEMBER 4
- NICK OLIVERI AND HIS MONDO GENERATOR, 'Sonic Slow Motion Trails'
- AUDIOSLAVE (*pictured*), 'Revelations'

SEPTEMBER 11
- EIGHTEEN VISIONS, 'Eighteen Visions'

FILM

Yo Ho Ho And A Bottle Of Rum

JOHNNY DEPP'S SECOND SUPER-NATURAL SWASHBUCKLING EPIC

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST

DIRECTOR: GORE VERBINSKI

(CERT 12A)

KKKK

SHIVER ME timbers – Captain Jack's back! And he's coming on even more like Indiana Jones on the high seas than he did in 'The Curse of the Black Pearl.'

This time around the wild blue yonder block, saucy Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) is caught up in a Faustian pact with the legendary Davy Jones (Bill Nighy) – he of deep sea locker fame. If our anti-hero buccaneer can't connive his way out of his predicament, he'll be cursed to an afterlife of eternal servitude and damnation as one of Jones's marine zombies. Meanwhile, aside from these spooky shenanigans, Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley) are still attempting to consummate their relationship – but thankfully this romantic aspect of proceedings is totally schmaltz-free.

As you'd expect of a flick based on a Disneyland ride, this is pure, mindless entertainment. So the fact that it's little more than a bunch of visually splendid, action-packed set pieces scarcely matters. Besides, those who loved the first instalment of the trilogy will be more than happy to go along with this tongue-in-cheek romp. Especially as Depp retains his camp Keith Richards demeanour to glorious effect throughout, even if his squid-headed adversary steals his thunder on several occasions.

The only set back to this supernatural swashbuckler is that with a running-time of 150 minutes it's somewhat overlong, causing director Verbinski to intermittently lose his grip of the pacing. Ultimately though, this is a cool slice of hoodoo nonsense that's a joy to watch.

BILLY CHAINSAW

THE LOWDOWN:

THE DWARVES

Words: Mikeal

ESSENTIAL PURCHASE

'...ARE YOUNG AND GOOD LOOKING'

(EPITAPH, 1997)

UNQUESTIONABLY THE Dwarves' finest (half) hour, this features everything that makes them one of the greatest punk bands on the planet. Tunes that evoke the Ramones and the Damned at their best, seedy and obnoxious lyrics, nudity, violence, and even a letter from their former label explaining why they were dropped. As it says on the record: "Nothing but hits, bitch!".

FOLLOW-UP PURCHASE

'...MUST DIE'

(SYMPATHY FOR THE RECORD INDUSTRY, 2004)

A WILDLY eclectic record featuring everything from hardcore punk to pop and hip-hop with such guests as Dexter Holland, Josh Freese and DJ Marz. 'The Dwarves Must Die' shows the true musical genius of the band. If it weren't for the fact that they insisted on getting naked girls to crucify a dwarf on the sleeve then tracks like 'Salt Lake City' might even see them get some airplay... on the day that Satan skates to work.

ALSO RECOMMENDED

'SUGAR FIX'

(SUB POP, 1993)

THEIR LAST record for Sub Pop after which they were elbowed for faking the death of guitarist Hewhocannot-benamed in an "anonymous bar fight in Philadelphia". After many touching obituaries and messages of condolance, the band laughed their asses off, cheekily calling the last track 'I Wish That I Was Dead' with a post-script to the label, "thanks to Sub Pop for drugs and money". Another great record overshadowed by controversy.

WILD CARD

'FREE COCAINE'

(RECESS, 1999)

DURING THEIR transitional period between being a psychedelic garage band and the band they are today, the Dwarves showed every indication that they were going to be thoroughly unpleasant. This compilation of early singles, including such masterpieces as 'I Wanna Kill Your Boyfriend' and 'It's Your Party (Die If You Want To)', is a clear sign that things were going to get out of hand. Loud, raw and infectious.

AVOID

'LICK IT'

(RECESS, 1998)

WITH 34 tracks compiled from all the bands early singles, this is a very different band from the Dwarves we know today. Obviously guzzling down acid and having a pretty bad trip, they managed to sound like a psychedelic Cramps crossed with something you'd see in a '60s freak-out movie. Which, admittedly, is pretty good stuff, just not what you'd want to check out if you've recently discovered them.

BURN THESE! THE ULTIMATE THE DWARVES MIX CD...

'LET'S FUCK'

DOES THIS really need explaining? Murderdolls' song of the same name bears some remarkable (and they claim accidental) similarities, but this is way more fun and er, infectious.
FIND IT: 'Blood, Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'FUCK YOU UP AND GET HIGH'

AGAIN IT doesn't take Stephen Hawking to work out what this one's about. Vocals, in the style of a complete mental, are provided by Nick Oliveri in full rant mode.
FIND IT: 'Blood, Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'BACK SEAT OF MY CAR'

ONE CAN only imagine the horrors that await in the back seat of any vehicle owned by the Dwarves. Let's just say that traffic violations are not your main concern.
FIND IT: 'Blood Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'GASH WAGON'

THANKFULLY THE lyrics are pretty indecipherable, but the title and a chorus of '*sex, drugs, rock 'n' roll*' and what sounds like someone shouting '*suck my dick*' give you an all too vivid idea of where the 'Gash Wagon' is heading.
FIND IT: 'Blood Guts And Pussy', 1990.

'ANYBODY BUT ME'

WHEN THE Dwarves played their first UK show (all four songs of it) they opened with this and started a bar brawl like something out of a spaghetti western. Nuff said.
FIND IT: 'Thank Heaven For Little Girls', 1992.

'FUCK 'EM ALL'

ANOTHER SUBTLE ditty about making the beast with two backs. '*It seems like balling bitches is all I ever do/You'd better watch your ass I'll fuck that too!*'. More tea, vicar?
FIND IT: 'Thank Heaven For Little Girls', 1992.

'ANYBODY OUT THERE'

LYRICALLY LIMITED to a couple of lines, Blag doesn't really have time to disgrace himself so we're left with a raucous punk blast that's as simple as it is effective.
FIND IT: 'Sugar Fix', 1993.

'SATURDAY NIGHT'

ON THE face of it a simple ode to the best night of the week, but of course, the Dwarves use it as an excuse to wreck the place, violate young ladies and '*know that deep down low, you're loving it*'.
FIND IT: 'Sugar Fix', 1993.

'REPUTATION'

'I'VE GOT *a bad reputation and you don't even know me!*' threatens Blag with his usual glee before apparently protesting his innocence. Butter wouldn't melt...
FIND IT: 'Sugar Fix', 1993.

'YOU GOTTA BURN'

OOZING SLOW and sleazy sex appeal, this is the ultimate stripper's tune. Forget Mötley Crüe's 'Girls, Girls, Girls', if you'd like a young lady to disrobe then slap this sucker on.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Are Young And Good Looking', 1997.

'EVERYBODY'S GIRL'

THE SONG'S essentially about chasing other people's girlfriends but for once it's done in a relatively tasteful (and radio friendly) way that comes across more as an homage to womankind than their usual unsubtle dick waving.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Are Young And Good Looking', 1997.

'PIMP'

'DON'T WANNA *be your pastor! I wanna be your master!/I'm just a fucking bastard!*'. A simple Ramones-esque blast about pimping one's ho. Delightful.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Are Young And Good Looking', 1997.

'FREE COCAINE'

CULLED FROM an early EP entitled 'Lucifer's Crank' this ragged one minute blast is pretty self-explanatory. '*The best things in life are free! /Well, if they're free why don't you give 'em to me!*'.
FIND IT: 'Free Cocaine', 1999.

'BETTER BE WOMEN'

A SIMPLE ditty about a singular failure with the better sex. '*You try, but you don't get none/And I said, 'why? Is she a lesbian?'*'. PC as always then.
FIND IT: 'Come Clean', 2000.

'HOW IT'S DONE'

ONE OF many songs in which Blag blows his own trumpet and basically tells the world how great the Dwarves are. Laughable if he wasn't absolutely right.
FIND IT: 'Come Clean', 2000.

'SALT LAKE CITY'

A RARE radio-friendly tune from our heroes. Not that many stations would touch it given that the cover features a dwarf being crucified by naked girls.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'BLAST'

OPENING WITH a sample of Nick Oliveri giving his reasons for being elbowed from Queens Of The Stone Age, this also features a venting of Oliveri's not inconsiderable spleen.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'DOMINATOR'

'I TAKE *the cake and then I take it back!*' brags Blag in this superb punk steamroller, before declaring '*don't really give a fuck about no right or wrong*'. Like that needed pointing out.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'MASSACRE'

A GAUNTLET-THROWING tune that disses everyone from Good Charlotte to Creed and QOTSA. It was reported that this was the song that caused QOTSA singer Josh Homme's altercation with Blag.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

'GO!'

IN WHICH Blag complains rather vigorously about the dating process. '*Why can't I just fuck that bitch and go?*'. It's inadvisable to play this to your girlfriend.
FIND IT: 'The Dwarves Must Die', 2004.

I ♥ THE DWARVES

DEXTER HOLLAND

THE OFFSPRING

"**THE DWARVES** are super punk, that's what I always loved about them. Today when you call someone punk, it might say more about the T-shirt some dude is wearing instead of their attitude. The Dwarves came before that stuff; they are a seminal punk band to me. Live, their shows descended into chaos and didn't last more than 15 minutes, usually ending up in a riot of broken chairs and tables flying across the tiny clubs they played. Onstage they were probably naked and their rad album covers always verged on obscene – particularly the 'Blood, Guts And Pussy' cover; nowadays it takes more to shock. They were mysterious too – you never quite knew who was in the band or even if they were alive or dead. They were a punk band back when punk was dangerous. They scared the shit out of me and I loved it. Plus they are going strong today, they redefined their music by not sticking to a formula and recording across styles from hip-hop to industrial but always bringing the raw power and attitude that makes them what they are. We're all lucky they are still around. The Dwarves must not die."

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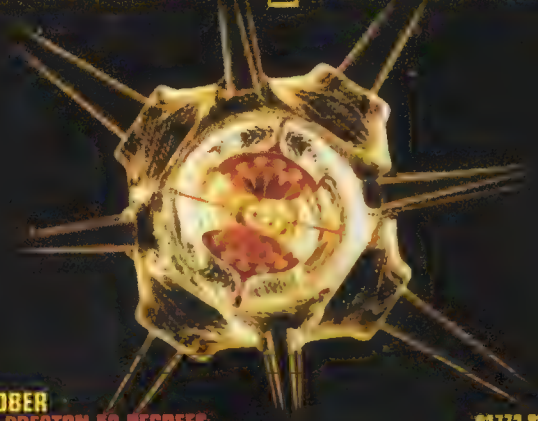

OCTOBER

07	PRESTON 53 DEGREES	01772 893 000
08	MANCHESTER ACADEMY 2	0161 832 1111
09	NEWCASTLE ACADEMY 2	0870 771 2000
10	GLASGOW GARAGE	0870 169 0100
11	ABERDEEN MOSHULU	0871 220 0260
13	SHEFFIELD LEADMILL	0870 010 4555
14	WREXHAM CENTRAL STATION	0870 444 5556
16	BIRMINGHAM ACADEMY 2	0870 771 2000
17	EXETER LEMON GROVE	01392 425 389
18	SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY	0871 220 0260
19	CARDIFF SOLUS	0292 078 1458
20	LONDON KOKO	0207 387 0428
22	NORWICH WATERFRONT	01603 508 050
23	CAMBRIDGE JUNCTION	01223 511 511
24	NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY	0115 941 2544
26	OXFORD ZODIAC	01865 420 042
27	READING FEZ	0115 912 9100
28	BRIGHTON CONCORDE 2	01273 673 311

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GLASGOW SECC
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BIRMINGHAM NEC
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FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER
MANCHESTER MEN ARENA
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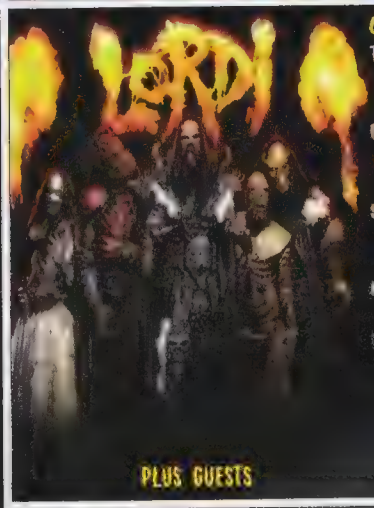

PLUS GUESTS

OCTOBER

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RINGTONES

TOP RINGTONES

Title	Mono	Poly
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMERICAN IDIOT - green day	[illegible]	[illegible]
BEFORE I FORGET - slipknot	[illegible]	[illegible]
JESUS OF SUBURBIA - green day	[illegible]	[illegible]
ALL THE SMALL THINGS - blink 182	[illegible]	[illegible]
GAMMIT - blink 182	[illegible]	[illegible]
FREAK ON A LEASH - korn	[illegible]	[illegible]
HAND OF BLOOD - bullet for my valentine	[illegible]	[illegible]
FACE OF SPADES - motorhead	[illegible]	[illegible]
THE TROUBLE - [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
CUSION - [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
PARANOID - black sabbath	[illegible]	[illegible]
I DON'WANNA GO TO TOWN - [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
THE END - [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
LAKE DAMN [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
RED SKY - [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

HIM

Title	Mono	Poly
THE FUNERAL OF HEARTS	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
WINGS OF A BUTTERFLY	[illegible]	[illegible]

FALLOUT BOY

Title	Mono	Poly
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GUNS & ROSES

Title	Mono	Poly
SWEET CHILD O MINE	[illegible]	[illegible]
WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE	[illegible]	[illegible]
PARADISE CITY	[illegible]	[illegible]
NOVEMBER RAIN	[illegible]	[illegible]
DON'T CRY	[illegible]	[illegible]

EVANESCENCE

Title	Mono	Poly
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GREEN DAY

Title	Mono	Poly
AMERICAN IDIOT	[illegible]	[illegible]
JESUS OF SUBURBIA	[illegible]	[illegible]
HOLIDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]

MARILYN MANSON

Title	Mono	Poly
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

METALLICA

Title	Mono	Poly
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
FADE TO BLACK	[illegible]	[illegible]

REAL TONES

Title	Mono	Poly
SWEET CHILD O MINE	[illegible]	AMERICAN IDIOT
ENTER SANDMAN	[illegible]	SHOW
LIVE ON THE TIDER	[illegible]	JESUS OF AURORIA
SUMMER OF 69	[illegible]	HOLIDAY
WINGS OF A BUTTERFLY	[illegible]	ALL THE SMALL THINGS
FAR AWAY	[illegible]	TAKING LOVE
LIVING ON A PRAYER	[illegible]	WRING ME TO LIFE
SMOKE ON THE WATER	[illegible]	BELIEVER FOR BOOM BOOM
NOVEMBER RAIN	[illegible]	WHERE U HAD STOMPED
DON'T STOP	[illegible]	ROCK SHOW
CANNIBALIZATION	[illegible]	MY IMMORTAL
PHOTOGRAPH	[illegible]	PERSONAL JESUS
JACKIE THE BROOD	[illegible]	SLOW WAVE LIKE DOWN
BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY	[illegible]	I MISS YOU
GIVE IT AWAY	[illegible]	[illegible]
WHOLE LOTTA LOVE	[illegible]	IN THE END

WALLPAPERS

255954 Guns & Roses	255719 Green Day	256444 Avril Lavigne	256115 Ramones	256123 HIM	240917 I'm Not a complete	250873 No Trespassing	250833 Heart
255281 Slip	256119 Funeral For A Friend	255218 Good Charlotte	255998 Papa Roach	255974 Slipknot	255284 Flaming Skull	240955 Major Biatch	250876 I Live next..
256000 Madness	256357 Dita Von Teese	255939 Iron Maiden	256451 Rocky Vs Mr T	256124 Papa Roach	256464 Osbournes	241019 Rock Star	240103 Lightning

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SOUTH PARK	291270	291255	291259

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VOLUME

JULY 12 - JULY 18

BATTLE ROYALE

GUNS N' ROSES

show Welsh metallers Bullet For My Valentine how it's done!

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE...

* General Mike Patton goes electro! PEEPING TOM

* The rise of... GREEN DAY

* Enter stoner heaven with HIGH ON FIRE

* Guilfest rocks with: THERAPY?

* DC comic hero returns! SUPERMAN...

the MAIN EVENT...

↓TOUR

GUNS N' ROSES

Bullet For My Valentine report from the G N'R tour frontline!

It's been a summer of dreams coming true for Welsh firebrands Bullet For My Valentine: rocking Donington in the sunshine at the Download festival alongside Metallica, Tool et al, opening for Guns N'Roses for their New York dates, European and UK tour and getting invited to play the Van's Warped Tour. Not bad going for "four Welsh pissheads"! Drummer Michael 'Moose' Thomas reveals all...

So – the Guns N'Roses tour. A dream come true?
Moose: "The rest of the guys are huge, huge fans. I must admit I was more into the heavier stuff when my mates all got into GN'R – I'm more of a Metallica, Megadeth type of guy. But the shows were pretty amazing; the New York shows were intense. The audiences were impatient for Guns to take the stage, which is understandable, so they weren't really that receptive to our set. The European shows have been much better, the crowds aren't so insane, they're willing to give us a chance, and you could tell some of the audience were really into it, so we got ourselves some new fans. Mission accomplished."

There must be some wild aftershow parties on the G N'R tour...
Moose: "I'm sure its nothing like it was in the 'Appetite For Destruction' days, its been pretty tame. But there have been loads of celebrities at the aftershows – I saw Matthew Perry from 'Friends', and [martial arts star] Jet Li! I didn't run after them with my autograph book or anything, though – I just sort of sat there thinking, what are we doing here?! We're just four Welsh pissheads!"

How are you digging the stadiums?
Moose: "We are loving it – playing support at these huge places, we're just preparing for the shows we'll be playing in a couple of years, getting a feel for the big stages and the huge audiences. Don't get me wrong, we love playing smaller venues, but we've been doing that for ages. We love arenas, we want to play stadiums. When I was a kid, I listened to stadium rock, those are the places I wanted to play."

Did you enjoy Download?
Moose: "It was fantastic, unbelievable. I just remember sitting at my drumstool, looking out at the crowd, and thinking, 'I can't believe all these people have come to see my little band!'. When you're on the road, touring all the time, it's difficult to get a handle on how big everything's getting, and how fast. It's only when we get a couple of weeks off and go home that it all sinks in."

What's your post-gig ritual?
Moose: "After we walk offstage, we're pretty fuckin' tired, so we go back to the dressing room, take a breath, and then talk about how the show could have been better, if it's been a bad show. We're always learning. A good show? That's if we get a good crowd reaction, and enjoy ourselves onstage."

What goes on in the bus between shows?
Moose: "The other guys love watching movies; they were up the other night, watching four in a row. Personally, I prefer to listen to my iPod. I've been listening to 'Somewhere In Time' by Iron Maiden a lot recently. And our new demos for the new record."

What do you like most about touring?
Moose: "Definitely playing the actual shows – I can't describe how it feels, to be playing before people who appreciate what you're doing, who respond to it and really seem to get it. We'd go see shows as kids, Pantera, Metallica, Machine Head, and we all really wanted to be up there – to grow as a band, to take our music to the arenas and stadiums. I don't have the planet-swallowing ego of a rock 'n' roll star, but I do love to play stadiums, and it's what I want to do for the rest of my life!"

TOUR DATES: Sheffield Hallam FM Arena July 18, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 19, Glasgow SECC 21, Manchester MEN Arena 23, Birmingham NEC 25, Nottingham Arena

"I'm a little tea-pot, short and stout. Everybody now..."

Words: Stevie Chick **Photo:** Justin Borucki (BFMV) Retna (Guns N'Roses over page)

also RECOMMENDED...

↓GIG

PEEPING TOM

SUPPORTED BY: DUB TRIO

Mike Patton was never going to get a cab going south of the river dressed like that

Six years in the making, Mike Patton's latest project Peeping Tom is ready to hit the streets. The man himself expects it to be "a fucking party" and who are we to argue?

The Peeping Tom project was pretty much completed over long distance wasn't it?
Mike: "For the most part, yeah. It was 75 per cent done by me on my own but then I got to the end of my rope and realised that I needed to collaborate with people who were a little outside of my world – people who were more involved with the dance or electronic side of things; producers. Song files were sent back and forth and Peeping Tom was put together."

So how did you go about getting a touring ensemble together?
Mike: "It's like anything else – you make up a laundry list. I knew the sounds that I wanted to reproduce and I chose a cast of characters that could weave that fabric together – there are a lot of parts to cover and it's closer to a Mr Bungle kind of set-up than anything I've done in years. On guitar, bass and drums we've got Dub Trio, who also appear on the record. Then there's electronics, keyboards, vocalists – it's a nine-piece band for the shows. I'm sure you can find a full cast-list online."

Are you hoping some more of the album's collaborators will join you for one-off shows?
Mike: "Eventually, yeah, but right now we're just getting our feet wet and this is more a preview tour than anything with three shows in Europe and four or five in the States. After that I hope to keep the core of it together but there's certainly scope for some of the auxilliary members to change and for other people to step in. Dan The Automator was actually supposed to be coming out with us for example but he had something else that he needed to do."

Do you know what to expect yourself from these shows?
Mike: "Yeah, I expect it to be a fucking party. It should be fun to play and fun to watch I think. I'm curious to know how it's going to go myself."

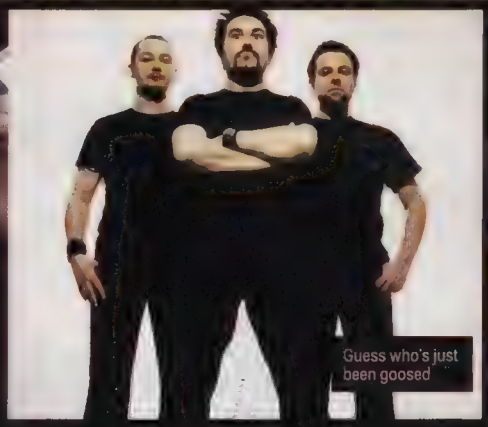
Did it ever feel like a project that would never come to fruition?
Mike: "Not really because it wasn't like I was working on it for six years straight. It was something that I worked on in what passes for my spare time and I only really concentrated on it towards the end. I knew that it would be ready when it was ready and the luxury of working the way that I do is there's no real pressure or hurry to get things completed before their time."

Would you agree it's the most accessible music you've put your name to for quite some time?
Mike: "It could be. Certainly to my ears it is but obviously my ears are a little skewed. I've played it for some friends and they've said, 'It's just as weird or odd as other stuff you've done'. But so far the reaction has been great and it seems to be getting a lot of attention right now."

There's a hardcore subculture of Pattonophiles who'd go and see any project you're involved in – does that give you the freedom to do pretty much anything?
Mike: "You create your own freedoms – I've always believed that. Anyone has a licence, whether they realise it or not, to create whatever they want. You can pick any sort of crazy idea out of the air and there are a lot of them floating around. Nobody has to be trapped in any situation. You can always get out of it..."

Tour date: London Charing Cross Astoria July 17.
More info: www.myspace.com/peepingtomispatton

Words: Paul Travers



Guess who's just been goosed

↓FESTIVAL

GUILFEST
GUILDFORD STOKE PARK

There's plenty of rock on the menu at this eclectic festival, including headline sets from loon-metal berserkers SikTh, skinny rock puppies InMe, leathery veterans Therapy? (*pictured*), the reliably demented Billy Idol, plus Breed 77, Winnebago Deal, Bring Me The Horizon, Architects and even hay-chewin' banjo-pluckers Hayseed Dixie. A bargain!

K! friendly bands: Friday – Hayseed Dixie, SikTh, Bring Me The Horizon, Architects, Dead!Dead!Dead!, BOB; Saturday – InMe , 65 Days Of Static, Dead Singer, The Delilahs, The Hedrons, Radiate, Mohair, The Mutts, Ariel X, Danni McCormack, Obscura, Preacher Joe; Sunday – Billy Idol, Therapy?, Breed 77, Winnebago Deal, The AG Band, Space Ritual, The Roosters, Attica, Dirty Love, Eastroad, Burnt Ash, Exoterik

More info: 01483 454159 and www.guilfest.co.uk

↓TOUR

HIGH ON FIRE
SUPPORTED BY: LOCAL SUPPORTS TBC

DES KENSEL (*drums*) says: "The UK has always been great for us. Birmingham's always good. London's always good. It's been one of the best places for us. We're going to Ireland for the first time and we're all stoked about that. The UK is definitely in our top 10 places in the world. It gets better every time. We have no complaints!"

Tour dates: Dublin Whelans July 18, Belfast Auntie Annie's 19, Glasgow Nice N' Sleazy 20, Edinburgh Cabaret Voltaire 21, Birmingham Supersonic Festival @ Custard Factory 22.
More info: www.highonfire.net

High On Fire: on tour, mayhem del pictured

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RADIO GAGA
From Ugly Phil's breakfast show to 'The Asylum' (Monday-Thursday 11pm-2am), K! Radio has got your number... Check out Loz and Rob's 'Unsigned Session' on Sundays from 9-10pm or Steve Harris' evening action, 7pm-10pm Tuesday-Thursday (featuring our very own Nichola Browne every Tuesday), to name but two...

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WWW.FREEVIEW.CO.UK

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WEDNESDAY JULY 12

↑ TOUR
BRING ME THE HORIZON
LIVERPOOL ACADEMY 3

Curtis Ward, guitar, says: "Yeah we are really psyched. It's the last time we're going on the road before we head off into the studio. Plus a lot of the dates are in places we have never played before, so it'll be great to show the kids who haven't seen us before what to expect from the album... You are going to witness some brutality!"

More info: www.myspace.com/bmth

↓ TV
TRAILER PARK BOYS
PARAMOUNT COMEDY, 11:30PM

A slice of prime redneck genius from the magnificent park-dwelling thickos. In this episode, they consider making their own porn movie. Jesus wept.

More info: www.paramountcomedy.co.uk

↓ RADIO
BREAKFAST WITH ALICE
PLANET ROCK, 6AM

Broadcasting live from Phoenix, Arizona, every morning, the crown prince of schlock rock promises to bombard your ears with a mixture of all the best classic rock from the likes of Led Zeppelin, AC/DC and ZZ Top. And then, if you're lucky, he'll chop his own head off while juggling snakes...

More info: www.planetrock.com

↓ TV
CLASSIC ALBUMS: DEEP PURPLE
VH1, 11PM

The full story of the '70s corker 'Machine Head'.

More info: www.vh1.co.uk

↓ GIGS

BRISTOL Academy Flogging Molly
DARLINGTON Forum The Fight
DERBY Victoria Inn Winnebago Deal
GLASGOW ABC2 San Sebastian, Call To Mind, The Hype
GLASGOW Bloc Amanda Woodward, Assitot Mort, Allergo, Mesa Verde
HASTINGS Crypt Captain Everything!
KINGSTON Bacchus The Peacocks
LEICESTER Attik Parachutes, My Jaded Hero, Switch NX, 3 Stones High, Accidental President
LIVERPOOL Academy 3 Bring Me The Horizon
LONDON Astoria, Charing Cross Billy Talent, Reuben
LONDON Garage, Highbury The Twilight Singers
LONDON Metro, Oxford Street The Needles
LONDON Underworld, Camden Fields Forever, Movies With Heroes, Stop Press Stories
LONDON Water Rats, King's Cross My Passion
MANCHESTER Evening News Arena Red Hot Chili Peppers, !!!
NOTTINGHAM Junktion 7 Fat Lady Singh, Kyral, Zenith, Deny The Charge
NOTTINGHAM Old Angel Brant Bjork And The Bros
NOTTINGHAM Rock City Basement Lostprophets, The Blackout, Dopamine
OXFORD Bullingdon Arms Sanzen, Malefice, Xmas Lights, Gehenna
SOUTHAMPTON Joiners My Ruin, GU Medicine, Barrabus
STOCKPORT Thatched House Uniting The Elements
TELFORD Haygate LAP
WAKEFIELD Snooty Fox Forever Never
WREXHAM Central Station Skindred
YORK Junction Lynchpin, Red Room Theory, Time to Leave, Black Sheep, The Konz

THURSDAY JULY 13

↑ TV
THE RISE AND RISE OF GREEN DAY
VH1, 9PM

From lowly snot-wads to one of the world's biggest rock bands, the story of Billie Joe and co is a heart-warming tale of triumph over adversity and, of course, includes a lot of fantastic songs.

More info: www.vh1.co.uk

↓ TV
MASTERS OF HORROR
BRAVO, 10PM

Legendary 'Halloween' director John Carpenter takes his turn to scare the living daylights out of horror-hungry viewers as part of this excellent series of one-off fright flicks.

More info: www.bravo.co.uk

↓ CLUB
DEADLIER THAN THE DJ
WOLVERHAMPTON PLANET

Rock, punk and metal sounds delivered straight to your ears via the medium of electronic amplification. Dance, damn you! Open from 10pm until 4am. Admission costs £1. NUS members get in for free.

More info: www.theplanet.uk.com

↓ GIG
THE DARKNESS
LIVERPOOL BIG TOP ARENA

Still the most entertaining live band on Earth, The Darkness are heading to Liverpool to peddle their magnificent wares and let off a shitload of fireworks. Ace.

More info: www.thedarknessrock.com

↓ GIGS

BOLTON Moses Gate Limehouse Lizzy
BOURNEMOUTH Opera House Brant Bjork And The Bros
BRADFORD Gasworks Bar Lowlife UK, 3CR
BRIDGWATER Palace Theatre Fandangle, The Fallout Theory, 9 Months Waiting, Everything We Left Behind
BRIGHTON Concorde II Flogging Molly
BRIGHTON Engine Room Anemo, Ego, Until Escape, Deathblow
CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH Shoulder Of Mutton Uniting The Elements
CHATHAM Tap 'N' Tin Radial Drop, Fear of Fear, Stoftype
CLEETHORPES Winter Gardens Phinius Gage, Dayseven
COVENTRY Colosseum LAP
LEICESTER Attik Back On The Streets, Masenko
LINCOLN Sugarcubes My Passion
LIVERPOOL Big Top Arena The Darkness, Roadstar
LONDON Bar Academy, Islington Bring Me The Horizon
LONDON Bar Monsta, Camden Town Big Blue Cheese
LONDON Underworld, Camden Swami, Anger Is A Gift, Spitfire, 8fold, Star Scream
NORWICH Waterfront My Ruin, GU Medicine, Barrabus
NOTTINGHAM Junktion 7 King Lizard, The Pleasures, Sweet Seduction
NOTTINGHAM Rock City Winnebago Deal
SOUTHAMPTON Joiners Captain Everything!, Mercury League, The Kamikazees, Ninety Percent Nudist
TRURO Three Mile Community Centre Enter Shikari
WOLVERHAMPTON Wulfrun Hall Billy Talent
YORK Junction AKP, 3milehigh, CarThirtyEight, Flaveret 3rd, Stereotyped

FRIDAY JULY 14

↑ FILM
FEEDER/FIGHTSTAR - THE VOLVIC KERRANG! FEST
BIRMINGHAM CUSTARD FACTORY

The UK's premier purveyors of radio-friendly rock team up with Charlie Simpson's post-hardcore battlers for this splendid one-off gig. And the opening band will be the unsigned winners of a recent K! Radio competition. Good luck to 'em!

More info: www.kerrangradio.co.uk

↓ TV
SOMEWHERE, ANYWHERE, EVERYWHERE
EXTREME SPORTS, 8PM

Super-cool surf movie from cult wave-bothering team Globe, includes music from prog nuts The Mars Volta.

More info: www.extreme.com

↓ FILM
SUPERMAN
(12A)

Despite wearing his underpants on the outside of his lycra jumpsuit, Superman remains one of the coolest superheroes of all. And with the distinctly buff Brandon Routh (check out those thighs, sigh!) as the flying do-gooder and Kevin Spacey as the bald evil slimeball Lex Luther with his lady friend Parker Posey.

More info: supermanreturns.warnerbros.com

↓ GIGS

BIDEFORD Palladium Club Scots Flood Of Red, Umeat6, Periscope
BIRMINGHAM Custard Factory Feeder, Fightstar
BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 Penknifelovelife, City In Ruins
BLACKPOOL West Coast Rock Café Action Directe, Swallow
BRADFORD Gasworks Bar Uniting The Elements
BRISTOL Casablanca Bombshell Rocks, The Peacocks
CARLISLE Sands Centre Lostprophets, The Blackout, Dopamine
CHATHAM Command House Horse The Band, The Final Sigh
CHATHAM Command House Reasonable Doubt, Till Thy Dying Day
DUMFRIES Venue Maiden England, Reginald
GLASGOW Arches The Ronelles, Blind Pew, Hip Parade
GLASGOW Barfly Brant Bjork And The Bros
GLASGOW Cathouse Think: Fire, Lifeblind, Sell Out Story, Pretentious Thoughts
GUILDFORD Guillest @ Stoke Park Hayseed Dixie, SikTh, Bring Me The Horizon, Architects, Dead!Dead!Dead!, 80B
HARLOW Square 4ft Fingers, Tat
HASTINGS Carlisle Rhythm Doctors
HEREFORD Herdsman Phinius Gage, Failsafe, Once Over
INVERNESS Hootananny Big Hand
LEICESTER Sumo Lovemat
LONDON Arena, Earls Court Red Hot Chili Peppers, !!!
LONDON Bar Monsta, Camden Town Nothin To Lose, Crowning Glory, Peep Show
LONDON Underworld, Camden Captain Everything!, The Mercury League, Hogwash, Random Heroes
LUTON Student Union My Ruin, GU Medicine, Barrabus
MERTHYR TYDFIL Studio Bar Adequate Seven
MILTON KEYNES Pitz @ Woughton Centre Jonathan Bunch, Fields Forever, Movies With Heroes, Our Man From The Bronze Age
NEATH Gwyn Hall 2 Way Mirror, Love Rocket, These Radio Days, The Citadel, Midnight Method, Fall Of One
NEWCASTLE Trillians The Fight
NOTTINGHAM Junktion 7 Silhouettes Of Soldiers, Alpengluhen, Nephu Husband
RUSHDON Attic LAP
STOKES CROFT Lakota Subhumans, Hard Skin, Gurkha
WAKEFIELD Snooty Fox Feral Circus
WALTON-ON-TRENT Bloodstock Open Air Festival @ Catton Hall Edguy, Metal Church, Atheist, Nocturnal Rites, Rage, Pyramaze
WORCESTER Marrs Bar Limehouse Lizzy
YEOVIL Ski Lodge Venue Winnebago Deal

FOR FREE INCLUSION, SEND DETAILS TO: VOLUME, KERRANG!, PO BOX 2930, LONDON W1A 6DZ. FAX: 020 7182 8910. E-MAIL: GIGS@KERRANG.COM PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: 1. DATE 2. VENUE 3. PHONE NUMBER 4. CITY 5. BAND (+GENRE) OR EVENT 6. SUPPORTS OR EVENT INFO. DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IS 15 DAYS PREVIOUS TO KERRANG! ISSUE DATES.

KERRANG!

SATURDAY JULY 15

TV

NAPOLEON DYNAMITE
SKY MOVIES 5, 6:20PM

Gosh! Curly-haired über-geek John Heder puts in a heroic performance as the nerdiest man alive in this hilarious tale of small town high school at its most excruciating.

More info: www.skymovies.com

FESTIVAL

CITY INVASION
SHEFFIELD PLUG

A full day of blistering punk mayhem, featuring Subhumans, Ignite, GBH, Bombshell Rocks and more. Mo' hican for yo' money.

More info: meanfiddler.livegigguide.com

FESTIVAL

BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR
WALTON-ON-TRENT CATTON HALL

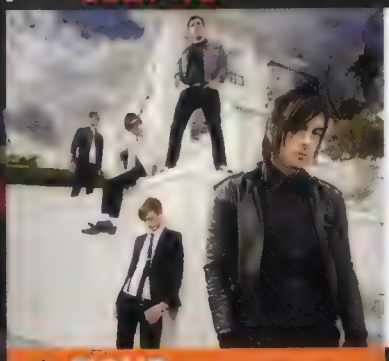
Lots of ear-shredding metal from the UK's top festival of steel. Edguy and Stratovarius headline, with support from Metal Church, Turisas, Nocturnal Rites and many more.

More info: www.bloodstock.uk.com

GIGS

ABERSOCH Wakestock Festival @ Penrhos & Pwllheli Feeder, The Crimea
ARBROATH Viewfield Hotel The Fight
BIRMINGHAM Edwards No 8 Silent Obsession, Dead by Sunrise, Disarm Goliath, WUD, The Communist Iguanas
BLACKPOOL Empress Ballroom Lostprophets, The Blackout, Covergirl
BRADFORD Gasworks Bar Sex Pistols Experience
BRISTOL Fleece UK Guns & Roses
CAMBERLEY Football Club Captain Everything!, Phinius Gage, Failsafe, Adequate 7, Once Over
CARLISLE Brickyard Anata, Callous
CHATHAM Tap 'N' Tin Intraverse, Forerunner, Resonate
CORNWALL Castle Rock @ Launceston Castle Capdown, Sanguine, Obedientbone, Orca, The Future One, Stone From Delphi, Talula, Powderstrip, Flick
COWGATE Subway Magdalen Green, The Twisted Melons, The Makos
DERBY Victoria Inn Fields Forever, Movies With Heroes
DONCASTER Leopard Limehouse Lizzy
GLASGOW ABC Billy Talent
GUILDFORD Guilfest @ Stoke Park InMe, 65 Days Of Static, Dead Singer, The Delilahs, The Hedrons, Radiate, Mohair, The Mutts, Ariel X, Danni McCormack, Obscura, Preacher Joe
HASTINGS Carlisle Monty's Python
LEICESTER Attik The Pleasures, Firebrand, New Generation Superstars
LONDON Arena, Earls Court Red Hot Chili Peppers, !!!
LONDON Bar Monsta, Camden Town Zen Motel, Halion, Peep Show, Hooligan Swamp, Dead Famous
LONDON Underworld, Camden Adequate Seven, Sonic Boom Six, Pickled Dick
LUTON Student Union This Mission, Bride Of The Atom, Garrett, Knievel Genius, Poseidon
NEWCASTLE Academy 2 Brant Bjork And The Bros
NOTTINGHAM Junktion 7 Angelic Upstarts, Crashed Out, Citizen Kayne
NOTTINGHAM Old Angel Lovemat
NUNEATON Queens Hall Sabbath Bloody Sabbath
PORTH Pop Factory Skindred
ROTHERHAM Arts Centre Bring Me The Horizon
SHEFFIELD City Invasion @ Plug The Subhumans, Ignite, Suicide Machines, The Peacocks, The Freaks Union, The Mingers, With Honour
STOCKPORT Thatched House Megedeth
STOKE Sugarmill Winnebago Deal
SUSSEX Stringbendy Club Star Scream, Airhammer
TELFORD Haygate Uniting The Elements
WALTON-ON-TRENT Bloodstock Open Air Festival @ Catton Hall Stratovarious, Tursas, Bal Sagoth, Ensiferum, Callenish Circle, Season's End, Ashtar, Ninteenth Century
WOLVERHAMPTON Robin 2 Sweet Seduction, Dirty DC

SUNDAY JULY 16



TOUR

LOSTPROPHETS
LIVERPOOL ACADEMY 1

They've topped the UK album chart and conquered the mainstream. Where next for Pontypridd's pop metal princes? Big venues, big crowds and killer shows, that's where.

More info: www.lostprophets.com

CLUB

DEAD SEED
LONDON CAMDEN WORLD'S END

Top notch rock, punk and metal action courtesy of fiendishly stylish DJs, plus the added bonus of readily available booze. The noise lasts from 7:30pm until 10:30pm.

More info: www.theunderworldcamden.co.uk

TV

THE LAST SUPPER
SCI-FI CHANNEL, 10PM

A group of young liberals, including Cameron Diaz, decide to start dealing with right-wing extremists by inviting them to dinner and killing them. Not a bad idea, in fairness. Anyone fancy a curry?

More info: www.uk.scifi.com

TV

PARANORMAL?: BIGFOOT
ADVENTURE ONE, 9PM

Scientists and conspiracy theorists team up to work out whether the notorious big, hairy beast of the forest is real or not, using some old footage that appears to show Sasquatch himself larking about. It's probably just someone in a monkey suit. Sigh.

More info: www.skyprogrammeinformation.co.uk

GIGS

BIRMINGHAM Academy Skindred
BIRMINGHAM Academy 3 The Fight
BRIGHTON Engine Room Anata, Callous
DEAL Astor Theatre Blue Oyster Cult
DUBLIN Whelans Brant Bjork And The Bros
GUILDFORD Guilfest @ Stoke Park Billy Idol, Therapy, Breed 77, Winnebago Deal, The AG Band, Space Ritual, The Roosters, Attica, Dirty Love, Eastroad, Burnt Ash, Exotenk
HASTINGS Carlisle Ron Trumen Border
LIVERPOOL Academy 1 lostprophets, The Blackout, Covergirl
LIVERPOOL Drezia Lounge These Bloody Hands, Result Of Betrayal, Collusion, Nava, Kripppalz Wiv Kancer, Method In Madness, Submerged, The Murder Obsession, Strain
LONDON Barfly, Camden Ophelia Torah, Semaphore, The Colonies
LONDON City Invasion @ Mean Fiddler, Charing Cross The Subhumans, Ignite, GBH, Hard Skin, Bombshell Rocks, The Peacocks, The Freaks Union, With Honor, Burn Subvert Destroy, The Mingers, Black Radio
LONDON Mean Fiddler, Charing Cross The Peacocks
LONDON Underworld, Camden Patchwork Grace, Until Escape, Bullet From Teeth
MANCHESTER Academy Billy Talent
MANCHESTER Satan's Hollow Everette, Eternal Lord, Clone The Fragile, Amends To The Dead, Blueprint To A Downfall
PETERBOROUGH Met Lounge LAP
SOUTHAMPTON Joiners Adequate Seven, Kenisia, Speaking Of Losers, Zero Consent
STOKE Sugarmill The Hedrons
WINCHESTER Railway Inn Frank Turner
YORK Junction Bring Me The Horizon

MONDAY JULY 17

TV

HARLEY DAVIDSON
THE BIOGRAPHY CHANNEL, 8PM

From their humble origins in early 20th century Milwaukee, William Harley and Arthur Davidson ended up as creators of *the* coolest two-wheel cruising machines and one of the most enduring rock 'n' roll icons of them all.

More info: www.thebiographychannel.co.uk

RADIO

THE VODAFONE LIVE HOUR
KERRANG! RADIO, 9PM

Sixty minutes of exclusives from the most rocking bands on the planet, compered by K! Radio DJ Steve 'not Iron Maiden' Harris.

More info: www.kerrangradio.co.uk

TV

PUSHER II
FILM FOUR, 12:05AM

This gritty tale of a drug deal gone horribly, horribly wrong may just be the second best Danish film ever. Okay, we can't actually think of any other Danish films. Well, apart from 'Pusher' – showing Sunday on Film Four at midnight, obviously.

More info: www.channel4.com/film

GIG

WEAPONS (OF MASS BELIEF)
SOUTHAMPTON JOINERS

If you thought that the idea of mixing metal with rap was past its sell by date, think again.

More info: www.joinerslive.co.uk

TV

THE SIMPSONS
SKY ONE, 7PM

Four episodes of the world's favourite cartoon, starting with 'Monty Can't Buy Me Love' which features a guest appearance from Spinal Tap's David St Hubbins.

More info: www.sky.com

GIGS

COVENTRY Jailhouse The Destructors, Barnyard Masturbator, Gizmo, AK47
DERBY Victoria Inn Sonic Boom Six
GLASGOW 13th Note Anata, Callous
GLASGOW Madness Loris
LEEDS Doctor Wus Uniting The Elements
LEICESTER Charlotte The Hedrons
LIVERPOOL Barfly Winnebago Deal
LONDON Arena, Earls Court Red Hot Chili Peppers, !!!
LONDON Astoria, Charing Cross Peeping Tom, Dub Tno
LONDON Water Rats, King's Cross The Needles
MANCHESTER Attic Brant Bjork And The Bros
MANCHESTER Satan's Hollow Phinius Gage, Failsafe
PETERBOROUGH Met Lounge With Honour, Ignite, Convict
SOUTHAMPTON Brook Hayseed Dixie
SOUTHAMPTON Joiners Weapons (Of Mass Belief), Mofo, The Scene Ignites, Afterthought
WOLVERHAMPTON Robin 2 Blue Oyster Cult

TUESDAY JULY 18

TOUR

BRANT BJORK AND THE BROS
CARDIFF POINT

The former Kyuss and Fu Manchu man returns, with his breezy, bong-wielding Californian vibes and tunes from last year's 'Saved By Magic' album. Spark 'em up!

More info: www.dunarecords.com

GIG

¡FORWARD RUSSIA!
LONDON HIGHBURY GARAGE

If you've heard these snotty noisemongers' debut album 'Give Me A Wall', you'll know that they're doing strange and interesting things with their guitars. Live, they're even more exciting.

More info: www.meanfiddler.com

TV

EPICENTER
SCI-FI CHANNEL, 10PM

Notorious porn star Traci Lords puts on a ludicrous wig and plays an undercover agent battling with arms dealing Russian gangsters in this carnival of cheap special effects and shocking dialogue. Genius.

More info: www.uk.scifi.com

TOUR

TEXTURES
NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY

These Dutch metallers will blow your head off with their insane hybrid of Meshuggah-esque riffs and Devin Townsend-style melodic enormity. Support comes from guitar-abusing weirdoes Twin Zero.

More info: www.rock-city.co.uk

GIGS

CARDIFF Point Brant Bjork And The Bros
CHELTENHAM Hub Immune
DERBY Victoria Inn Fear Of Music
DUBLIN Whelans High On Fire
EDINBURGH Cabaret Voltaire The Needles
GLASGOW Barfly Winnebago Deal
GLASGOW Renfrewshire Ferry Blue Oyster Cult
LEEDS Vine Uniting The Elements
LINCOLN Drill Hall Hayseed Dixie
LIVERPOOL Roadkill Captain Everything!
LONDON Arena, Earls Court Red Hot Chili Peppers, !!!
LONDON Bar Monsta, Camden Town Guns2Roses, Motley Scrued, Vamps N Gypsies
LONDON Garage, Highbury ¡Forward Russia!, Youth Movie Soundtrack Strategies
LONDON Hope And Anchor, Islington Dante's Ascension, Dark Sun Rising, One Fell Down, Shallowface
NEWCASTLE Trillians With Honour, Ignite, Convict
NORWICH UEA Lostprophets, The Blackout, Covergirl
NOTTINGHAM Junktion 7 A.D.O., A Man Down, Argyle
NOTTINGHAM Old Angel The Destructors, Barnyard Masturbator, Gizmo, AK47
NOTTINGHAM Rock City Textures, Twin Zero
SHEFFIELD Hallam FM Arena Guns N' Roses, Bullet For My Valentine
STOURBRIDGE Rock Café 2000 Deadweight, Out For Blood, Ready For War, Thoughts Of Fire
WREXHAM Central Station Phinius Gage, Failsafe

WOLFMOTHER

Wolfmother at the Fro-down

Photo: James Sharrock

JUST ANNOUNCED!

THE ANSWER
Retro-rockers co-headline with Roadstar at: Reading Fez October 4, Exeter Cavern 5, Bristol Academy II 6, Cardiff Uni 7, Oxford Zodiac 9, Sheffield Leadmill 10, Milton Keynes Ritz 12, Manchester Academy III 13, Edinburgh Voltaire 14, Dundee Westport Bar 15, Aberdeen Tunnels 16, Glasgow King Tut's 17, Liverpool Academy II 19, Carlisle Brickyard 20, Nottingham Rock City 21, Newcastle Academy II 22, Peterborough Park 24, Birmingham Academy II 25, York Fibbers 27, Stoke Sugarmill 28, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 29, Brighton Engine Rooms 30, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler November 1.

BILLY TALENT
Toronto rockers head over to: Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall July 13, Glasgow ABC 15, Manchester Academy 16 – and have added: Southampton Guildhall September 7, London Hammersmith Palais 8, Bristol Academy 9, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 13, Glasgow ABC 15, Manchester Academy 16.

LESS THAN JAKE
As well as punking up the Carling Weekend, they'll rock: Cardiff Uni Great Hall August 26, Bournemouth Opera House 28.

NEIL FALLON
Clutch warbler goes solo for the first time ever at: Derry Glasgowbury Festival @ Draperstown Eagle's Rock July 22.

NICK OLIVERI AND HIS MONDO GENERATOR
Crazy Nick and his Mondo friends headline: Sheffield Leadmill August 21, London Camden Underworld 22, Coventry Colosseum 23, York Barfly 29, Glasgow King Tut's 30, Liverpool Barfly 31, Manchester Roadhouse September 1, Oxford Zodiac 4, Southampton Joiners 5.

PARAMORE
Upbeat Tennessee emo rockers hit: Cardiff Barfly October 5, Oxford Zodiac 6, Newcastle Northumbria Uni 8, Glasgow Garage 9, Birmingham Academy II 10, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 12, Manchester Academy III 13, Leeds Cockpit 14, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 15.

WOLFMOTHER
Australian rockers head back over to party at: Glasgow Academy November 5, Dublin Olympia 6, Leeds Uni 8, Manchester Academy 9, Birmingham Academy 10, Bristol Academy 12, London Brixton Academy 15.

YOU SAY PARTY! WE SAY DIE!
Canadian disco punkers take on: Cardiff Barfly August 22, London Oxford Street 100 Club 23, Manchester Night & Day 24, Birmingham Barfly 26 and the Carling Weekend: Reading Festival 27.

LACUNA COIL

Cristina falls for the old super-glue on the mic trick

Photo: Chris Casey

GO SEE...

LACUNA COIL
Italian goth-metallers take on: Portsmouth Pyramid October 6, Cardiff Coal Exchange 7, Birmingham Academy 8, Glasgow Barrowland 10, Nottingham Rock City 11, Manchester Academy 12, London Charing Cross Astoria 13, Sheffield Corporation 17.

UPCOMING

AFI
San Francisco metro-goths go large at: London Brixton Academy October 9, Nottingham Rock City 10, Newcastle Academy 12, Birmingham Academy 13, Manchester Apollo 16, Glasgow Barrowland 18.

AIDEN
Victory Records' 200666 tour kicks off with the rising goth stars headlining. Also on the menu are Bayside, theAudition and The Sleeping all served up at: Brighton Concorde II September 2, Oxford Zodiac 3, Dublin TMBC 5, Belfast Mandela Hall 6, Glasgow Garage 7, Aberdeen Moshulu 8, Sunderland Manor Quay 9, Norwich Waterfront 10, Manchester MDH 13, Liverpool Academy II 14, Leicester University 15, Nottingham Rock City 16, Stoke Sugarmill 17, Cardiff Coal Exchange 20, Bristol University 21, Exeter Lemon Grove 22, London Charing Cross Astoria 23, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 24

THE ALL-AMERICAN REJECTS
US pop-rockers play: Birmingham Academy September 22, Manchester Apollo 23, Leeds Uni 24, Cambridge Corn Exchange 26, Southampton Guildhall 27, London Brixton Academy 29.

ANATHEMA
Scouse doom rockers take on: Glasgow Cathouse September 12, Manchester Academy 13, London King's Cross Scala 14.

ATP
The legendary art-noise-rock festival throws a seasonal party 'Nightmare Before Christmas' with Iggy Pop & The Stooges, Sonic Youth, The Melvins and more will rock: Minehead Butlins Holiday Camp December 8-10.

ATREYU / 36 CRAZYFISTS
Californian metalcore and Alaskan metallers co-headline this crazy tour: London Brixton Academy September 15, Glasgow Barrowland 16, Nottingham Rock City 17, Manchester Academy 18

BAUHAUS
Peter Murphy resurrects his classic gothic quartet: London Kentish Town Forum August 7 and 8.

BLACK LABEL SOCIETY
Zakk Wylde and his no-nonsense mates will rock: Glasgow Academy March 4, 2007, Manchester Academy 5, Newcastle Academy 6, Birmingham Academy 8, London Brixton Academy 9.

BLOODSTOCK INDOOR FESTIVAL
It doesn't get much bloodier than this, with Primal Fear and My Dying Bride headlining the indoor version of this underground festival at: Derby Assembly Rooms September 29 and 30.

BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR '06
Now in its second year with Stratovarius, Tursas Ensiferum, Raunchy, Callenish Circle, Season's End, Ashtar, Edguy, Metal Church, Atheist, Rage, Nocturnal Rites, Pyramaze and more, the UK's "biggest independent outdoor metal festival" will be held at Derbyshire Catton Park July 14 and 15.

BOMBSHELL ROCKS
Swedish punk rockers take on: Bristol Casablanca July 14, Sheffield Plug 15, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 16.

BRAND NEW
US emo kids play: London Brixton Academy September 9.

BRANT BJORK AND THE BROS
Stoner heaven as Fu Manchu guy goes solo at: Nottingham Old Angel July 12, Bournemouth Opera House 13, Glasgow Barfly 14, Newcastle Academy 15, Dublin Whelans 16, Manchester Attic 17, Cardiff Point 18, Exeter Cavern 19.

BREED 77
Gibraltan metallers hit: Stamford Corn Exchange September 10, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 12, Edinburgh Studio 24 14, Glasgow Cathouse 15, Sheffield Corporation 16, Nottingham Rock City 18, Manchester Academy III 20, Birmingham Academy II 21, Stoke Sugarmill 23, London Camden Underworld 25, Oxford Zodiac 26, Reading Fez 27, Leeds Cockpit 30, Brighton Concorde October 2.

BRIGADE
Brit pop-rockers take on: York Fibbers August 20, Birmingham Academy 21, Brighton Free Butt 22, Bristol Academy 23, Leicester Charlotte 24, Aberdeen Moshulu 26, Newcastle Academy 27, Liverpool Academy 28, Cardiff Barfly 29, London Camden Barfly 30, Nottingham Rock City 31. Disco Ensemble and The Scare support.

BRING ME THE HORIZON
Rising Sheffield stars hit: Liverpool Academy July 12, London Islington Bar Academy 13, Guilford Guildfest 14, Rotherham Arts Centre 15.

BULLDOG BASH 2006
The 20th anniversary of this famed biker/music festival continues to rock: Stratford On Avon Long Marston Shakespeare County Raceway August 10-13. Catch Pitchshifter, The Almighty, Skindred, Paradise Lost, Hundred Reasons, engerica, The Answer, Breed 77 and loads more.

CARLING WEEKEND: READING AND LEEDS FESTIVALS
Melodic maestros Muse and classic grungers Pearl Jam front the August Bank Holiday festivals this year with My Chemical Romance, Mastodon, Slayer, Less Than Jake, Coheed And Cambria, Flogging Molly, Gogol Bordello, Aiden, Taking Back Sunday, Feeder, Placebo, Yeah Yeah Yeahs, The Subways, er, The Raconteurs, Fall Out Boy, Panic! At The Disco and many more to be announced over the three-dayer on August 25, 26, 27. See www.meanfiddler.com for details.

CELTIC FROST
Swiss avant death metallers play: London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler August 19, with Cryptopsy, Gorerotted and She Said Destroy supporting.

THE CULT
The '80s UK rock legends return to swing out at: Bristol Academy September 18, Southampton Guildhall 19, Manchester Apollo 20, London Brixton Academy 22, Leeds Uni 23, Birmingham Academy 24, Glasgow Academy 26, Newcastle Academy 27.

CRYPTOPSY
Insane Canadian tech-death metallers bring Gorerotted, She Said Destroys and Sylosis to: Leeds Ghostfest @ Cockpit August 12, Nottingham Rock City 13, Manchester Satans Hollow 14, Cork An Cruisin Lan 15, Dublin TBMC 16, Glasgow Barfly 17, London Mean Fiddler 19 (supporting Celtic Frost), Norwich Ferryboat 20.

THE DARKNESS
OTT rockers will launch off: Liverpool Big Top Arena July 13.

DEEP PURPLE
Legendary Brit-rockers come back to: Newcastle Metro Radio Arena April 21, 2007, Manchester Evening News Arena 22, Nottingham Arena 24, Cardiff International Arena 25, Bournemouth BIC 27, London Wembley Arena 28, Brighton Centre 29, Glasgow Clyde Auditorium May 1, Sheffield Hallam FM Arena 2, Birmingham NEC 3. Styx support!

DISTURBED
'Mad' Davey Draiman's mentalists have added a new date to their re-scheduled tour: Newcastle Academy September 29, Glasgow Barrowland 30, Manchester Academy October 2, Nottingham Rock City 4, Birmingham Academy 6, Liverpool Academy 7, London Charing Cross Astoria 9 and 10.

DON'T LOOK BACK 2006
ATP bring us a new set of 'Don't Look Back' dates. Isis will perform 'Oceanic' in its entirety at: London Camden Koko July 23, Girls Against Boys play 'Venus Luxure No 1 Baby' July 21, and Tortoise will present the majestic 'Millions Now Living Will Never Die' July 25.

DRAGONFORCE
UK power metallers take the party to: Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall November 29, Southampton Guildhall 30, Leeds Uni December 1, Nottingham Rock City 2, Cardiff Coal Exchange 4, Birmingham Academy 5, Sheffield Octagon 7, Manchester Academy 8, Glasgow Barrowland 9, Norwich UEA 11, Bristol Academy 12, London Charing Cross Astoria 13

ENSLAVED
Norwegian extreme-prog metallers hit: Sheffield Corporation September 8, Glasgow Garage 9, Manchester Academy 10, Birmingham Academy 11, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 12, with Zyklon and 1349 supporting.

ENTER SHIKARI
Popular Brit newcomers take on: Narbeth Queens Hall October 14, Stoke Sugarmill 15, Newcastle Academy II 16, Liverpool Academy II 17, Aberdeen Tunnels 19, Arbroath Viewfield 20, Edinburgh Cabaret Voltaire 21, Glasgow King Tut's 22, Manchester Roadhouse 23, Brighton Komedia 25, Derby First Floor Club 26, Milton Keynes Pitz 27, York Fibbers 28, Birmingham Bar Academy 29, Oxford Zodiac 30, Cardiff Barfly November 1, Exeter Cavern Club 2, Southampton Joiners 3, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 4.

ENTOMBED
Swedish thrashers hit: Nottingham Rock City September 13, Glasgow Cathouse 14, Sheffield Corporation 15, Dublin Temple Bar 16, London Mean Fiddler 17.

FEEDER + FIGHTSTAR = THE VOLVIC K! FEST
Kerrang! Radio are gonna rock Birmingham Custard Factory July 14, with a Brit-rock-esque line-up. Check www.kerrangradio.co.uk for more details

FIGHTSTAR
UK's hottest rockers go big at: Glasgow Barrowland October 8, Newcastle Uni 9, Manchester Academy 11, Sheffield Leadmill 12, London Hammersmith Palais 13, Nottingham Rock City 14, Portsmouth Pyramid 16, Cardiff Solus 17, Cambridge Corn Exchange 18, Birmingham Academy 19.

FLOGGING MOLLY
American-Irish punk rockers get the party started at: Bristol Academy July 12, Brighton Concorde II 13, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 25.

GOD FORBID
New Jersey metallers rock: London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler September 16, Bournemouth Opera House 17, Manchester Rockworld 18, Milton Keynes Pitz 20.

GUNS N'ROSES
Catch Axl rock out at these supersized shows: Sheffield Hallam FM Arena July 18, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 19, Glasgow SECC 21, Manchester MEN Arena 23, Birmingham NEC 25, Nottingham Arena 27, London Wembley Arena 29 and 30. With Bullet For My Valentine supporting.

HIGH ON FIRE
US stoner heaven at: Dublin Whelans July 18, Belfast Auntie Annie's 19, Glasgow Nice N' Sleazy 20, Edinburgh Cabaret Voltaire 21, Birmingham Supersonic Festival @ Custard Factory 22.

HUNDRED REASONS
UK emo-rock veterans play: Newcastle Academy October 9, Glasgow G2 10, Birmingham Academy

ALOUD.COM the ultimate ticketing experience

KERRANG! HAS TEAMED UP WITH ALOUD.COM WHERE YOU CAN BOOK YOUR ESSENTIAL GIGS ON-LINE. YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP FOR FREE METAL AND ROCK E-MAIL ALERTS, OR BUY TICKETS ON 0870 998 8888.

16, Cardiff Uni Students Union 19, London Camden Koko 20, Cambridge Junction 23, Nottingham Rock City 24, Brighton Concorde II 28.

IRON MAIDEN
Get your tix fast before they sell out! The metal legends bring along metal legends-in-waiting Trivium for this humongous UK tour: Cardiff International Arena December 11, Birmingham NEC 12, Manchester MEN Arena 14, Glasgow SECC Hall 15, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 17, Sheffield Hallam FM Arena 18, London Earls Court Arena 22 and 23.

ISIS
US instrumental rockers play at: Cardiff Point July 19, Bournemouth Opera House 20, Sheffield Corporation 21, Birmingham Supersonic Fest @ Custard Factory 22, and London Camden 'Don't Look Back '06' at Koko 23.

JULIETTE & THE LICKS
Miss Juliette Lewis goes all out at: Brighton Concorde II September 26, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 27, Manchester Academy III 28, Sheffield Leadmill 29, Nottingham Rescue Rooms October 2, Glasgow ABC 4, Leeds Cockpit 5.

LORDI
Finnish superstars go orc-shit at: Nottingham Rock City October 26, Birmingham Academy 27, Manchester Academy 29, Glasgow Garage 30, London Kentish Town Forum 31

LOSTPROPHETS
Welsh sexpots bring their new sounds to: Nottingham Rock City July 12, Carlisle Sand Centre 14, Blackpool Empress Ballroom 15, Liverpool Academy 16, Norwich UEA 18, Exeter Great Hall 19, Birmingham Academy 20, Cardiff International Arena 22.

MENDEED
Scottish metallers take on: Southampton Joiners October 3, Exeter Cavern 4, Oxford Zodiac 5, Manchester Academy III 6, Newcastle Academy II 7, Glasgow King Tuts 8, Stoke Sugarmill 9, Pontypridd Sanctuary Music Bar 10, Norwich Waterfront 11, London Camden Underworld 12, Great Yarmouth End Of Days Festival 13, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 14, Aberdeen Drummonds 15.

MINISTRY
Al Jourgensen brings the industrial pounding to: London Kentish Town Forum August 2.

THE MISFITS
Seminal goth punks hit: London Electric Ballroom September 21, Sheffield Plug 22, Durham Uni 23, Edinburgh Liquid Room 24, Leeds Met Uni 26, Bournemouth Opera House 27, Cardiff Coal Exchange 28, Stourbridge Rock Cafe 29, Manchester Academy II 30

MOGWAI
UK instrumentalists hit: Suffolk Southwold Latitude Festival July 16, Ireland County Laois Stradbally Estate Electric Picnic Festival September 1, London Kensington Royal Albert Hall 22, Glasgow Barrowland 23, Manchester Academy 24.

MORBID ANGEL
Death metal party at: London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler August 22

MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK
Emo-loving Minneapolitans punk up: Bristol Uni September 18, Cardiff Uni Solus 19, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 20, Newcastle Uni 21, Manchester Academy 22, Glasgow ABC 24, Leeds Met Uni 25, Portsmouth Pyramid 27, London Charing Cross Astoria 28

MOTÖRHEAD
Lemmy and his metal warriors follow their Foos support slot by playing: Newcastle City Hall November 2, Glasgow Academy 4, Manchester Apollo 5, Bradford St George's Hall 7, Sheffield City Hall 8, Birmingham Academy 9, Cardiff University 11, Oxford New Theatre 12, Leicester De Montford Hall 13, Norwich UEA 15, Cambridge Corn Exchange 16, Ipswich Regent 17, Nottingham Rock City 19, Bristol Colston Hall 20, Plymouth Pavilions 21, Portsmouth Guildhall 23, Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall 24, London Brixton Academy 25 with the mighty Clutch supporting

MUSE
Brit-rockers serenade: Edinburgh Meadowbank Sports Centre August 24, with My Chemical Romance supporting.

MY RUIN
Outspoken and over here! Tairrie B and pals swing into: Southampton Joiners July 12, Norwich Waterfront 13, Luton Students Union 14

NEW FOUND GLORY
Massive US pop-punkers grace these shores: Bristol Academy November 27, Southampton Guildhall 28, Norwich UEA 29, London Charing Cross Astoria December 1, Birmingham Academy 3, Glasgow Academy 5, Manchester Academy 6.

OPETH
Scandi proggers take over: Portsmouth Pyramid November 5, Glasgow ABC 6, Nottingham Rock City 7, Birmingham Academy 8, London Camden Roundhouse 9, Manchester Academy 10, Exeter Great Hall 11

PANIC! AT THE DISCO
Panic over. They'll be back to headline London Brixton Academy October 22, 23 and 24.

PEEPING TOM
Mike Patton goes rock-electro at: London Charing Cross Astoria July 17

RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS
Californian good-time rockers play: Manchester MEN Arena July 12, London Earls Court Arena 14, 15, 17 and 18.

REEL BIG FISH
Punk-fun at: London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler August 25, and the Carling Weekend Lock-Up stage

RISE AGAINST
Punking rock at: Carling Weekend Reading 25 and Leeds 26, Birmingham Academy II September 10, Manchester Academy III 11, Glasgow King Tut's 12, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 13.

SEND MORE PARAMEDICS
UK zombie-core originals play KI 'Most Wanted!' shows at: Glasgow Barfly July 29, Cardiff Barfly August 2, Birmingham Barfly 3, London Camden Barfly 10, York Fibbers 12.

SIXTH
UK math-metallers rock: Oxford Zodiac September 28, Ilfracombe Landmark Theatre Pavillion 29, Wadebridge Town Hall 30, Falmouth Princess Pavillion October 1, Newport TJ's 3, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 4, Brighton Concorde II 5, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 6, Leeds Cockpit 7, Newcastle Uni 9, Aberdeen Moshulu 10, Glasgow King Tut's 11, Sheffield Corporation 12, Milton Keynes Pitz 13, Norwich Waterfront 15, Stoke Sugarmill 16, Manchester Academy III 17, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 19.

SKINDRED
Ragga-rockers rock: Wrexham Central Station July 15, Birmingham Academy 16, Merthyr Tydfil Studio Bar 21, Abingdon Truck Festival 22, Exeter Phoenix 28, Cardiff Compass Festival 29, London Islington Academy Uxfest August 6, Warwickshire Bulldog Bash 11, Wrexham Central Station September 10, Camberley Agincourt 15, London Camden Underworld 18, Southend Chinnerys 19, London Battersea Park October 7, Nottingham Rock City 21

TAKING BACK SUNDAY

Adam Lazzara: back in black

Photo: James Sharrock

GO SEE... ↗

TAKING BACK SUNDAY

"On the poppier side of things I'd recommend Taking Back Sunday. I think a lot of people were weirded out that they'd signed to a major label or whatever and they were expecting the new record to suck but they've come back with a really strong set of songs. They're a great live band and the new record sounds really good so go and check them out."

Taking Back Sunday rock another Taste Of Chaos line-up with Anti-Flag, Alexisonfire, Underoath, Senses Fail and Saosin at: Birmingham NIA November 10, Glasgow SECC 11, Manchester Apollo 12, Brighton Centre 13, Newcastle Arena 17, London Brixton Academy 18, Doncaster Dome 20, Cardiff Arena 21.

SLAYER - UNHOLY ALLIANCE TOUR
Whooaaaah! Everyone's favourite thrashers Slayer bring along In Flames, Lamb Of God, Children Of Bodom and Thine Eyes Bleed for the UK leg of their 'Unholy Alliance' Tour at: Cardiff International Arena October 30, Birmingham NEC November 1, Glasgow SECC 2, Manchester Evening News Arena 3, London Brixton Academy 19 and 20.

SOILWORK
Scandinavian metallers rock: Norwich Waterfront September 17, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 18, Oxford Zodiac 19, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 20, Nottingham Rock City 21, Glasgow Cathouse 22, Leeds Cockpit 23, Manchester Academy III 24, Birmingham Academy II 26, Cardiff Barfly 27, Exeter Lemon Grove 28.

SUICIDE FILE
Boston's punkers reform to educate: Nottingham Old Angel July 24, Manchester Star & Garter 25, Leeds Josephs Well 26, London Camden Barfly 27, Norwich Marquee 28, Newport Le Pub 29, Ashford Downtown Diner 30.

SUPERSONIC FESTIVAL
Stoner, doom, instrumental and experimental mashup: Birmingham Custard Factory July 22 starring High On Fire, Isis, Michael Gira, Crowbar, Circle, Thrones, Zombi and more..

TESTAMENT
US thrash legends return to: London Islington Academy July 24, Bradford Rio 25, Dudley JB's 26

THUNDER
British rock legends take on: Plymouth Pavillion November 15, Llandudno North Wales Theatre 17, Oxford New Theatre 18, Portsmouth Guildhall 20, Wolverhampton Civic Hall 21, London Kentish Town Forum 22, Manchester Academy 24, Newcastle City Hall 26, Glasgow Academy 28

THE TWILIGHT SINGERS
Greg Dulli and friends bring their soulful art-rock to: London Highbury Garage July 12, London Camden Lock 17 August 22, Liverpool Academy II 23, Sheffield Boardwalk 24, Carling Weekend 25 and 26.

UXFEST
The rowdy metal festival includes: Skindred, Bring Me The Horizon, Shelshock, Fireapple Red, Eths, Head-On, Biomechanical, Murder One, Head-on, Kingsize Blues, Inner Rage, Mumrah, NWS, Symosis, Forever Never. Now at London Islington Academy August 6

WINNEBAGO DEAL
Rock-tastic duo and sometime Nick Oliveri backing men go out and headline: Derby Victoria Inn July 12, Nottingham Rock City 13, Yeovil Ski Lodge 14, Stoke Sugarmill 15, Guildford Guilfest 16, Liverpool Barfly 17, Glasgow Barfly 18, Newcastle Academy II 19, Manchester Night & Day 21, Oxford Truck Festival 22.

WITH HONOR/IGNITE
Hardcore's finest play City Invasion; with three other acts at: Sheffield Plug July 15, London Charing Cross Mean Fiddler 16, then as a duo at: Peterborough Met Lounge 17, Newcastle Trillians 18, Glasgow Barfly 19, Bristol Casablanca 21

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Birmingham Academy; 0870 7712000
Birmingham Edwards No 8; 0121-643 5835
Blackpool Empress Ballroom; 01253 292029
Blackpool West Coast Rock Café; 07707 290710
Bolton Moses Gate; 01204 576278
Bournemouth Opera House; 0870 8301414
Bradford Gasworks Bar; 01274 732200
Bridgwater Palace Theatre; 01278 434507
Brighton Concorde II; 01273 772770
Brighton Engine Room; 01273 323161
Bristol Academy; 0870 7712000
Bristol Fleece; 0117 9299008
Cardiff Point; 029 2023 0130
Carlisle Brickyard; 01228 512220
Carlisle Sands Centre; 01228 625222
Chatham Command House; 01634 810120
Chatham Tap 'N' Tin; 01634 831119
Cheltenham Hub; 01242 238001
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Coventry Colosseum; 024 7655 4473
Coventry Jailhouse; 024 7622 1274
Cowgate Subway; 0131-225 6766
Deal Astor Theatre; 01304 363 646
Derby Victoria Inn; 01332 740091
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Glasgow Barfly; 0141-204 5700
Glasgow Bloc; 0141-574 6066
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Oxford Bullingdon Arms; 01865 244516
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Porth Pop Factory; 01443 688500
Rotherham Arts Centre; 01709 823 621
Rushdon Attic; 01933 312398
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Sheffield Plug; 0114 2762676
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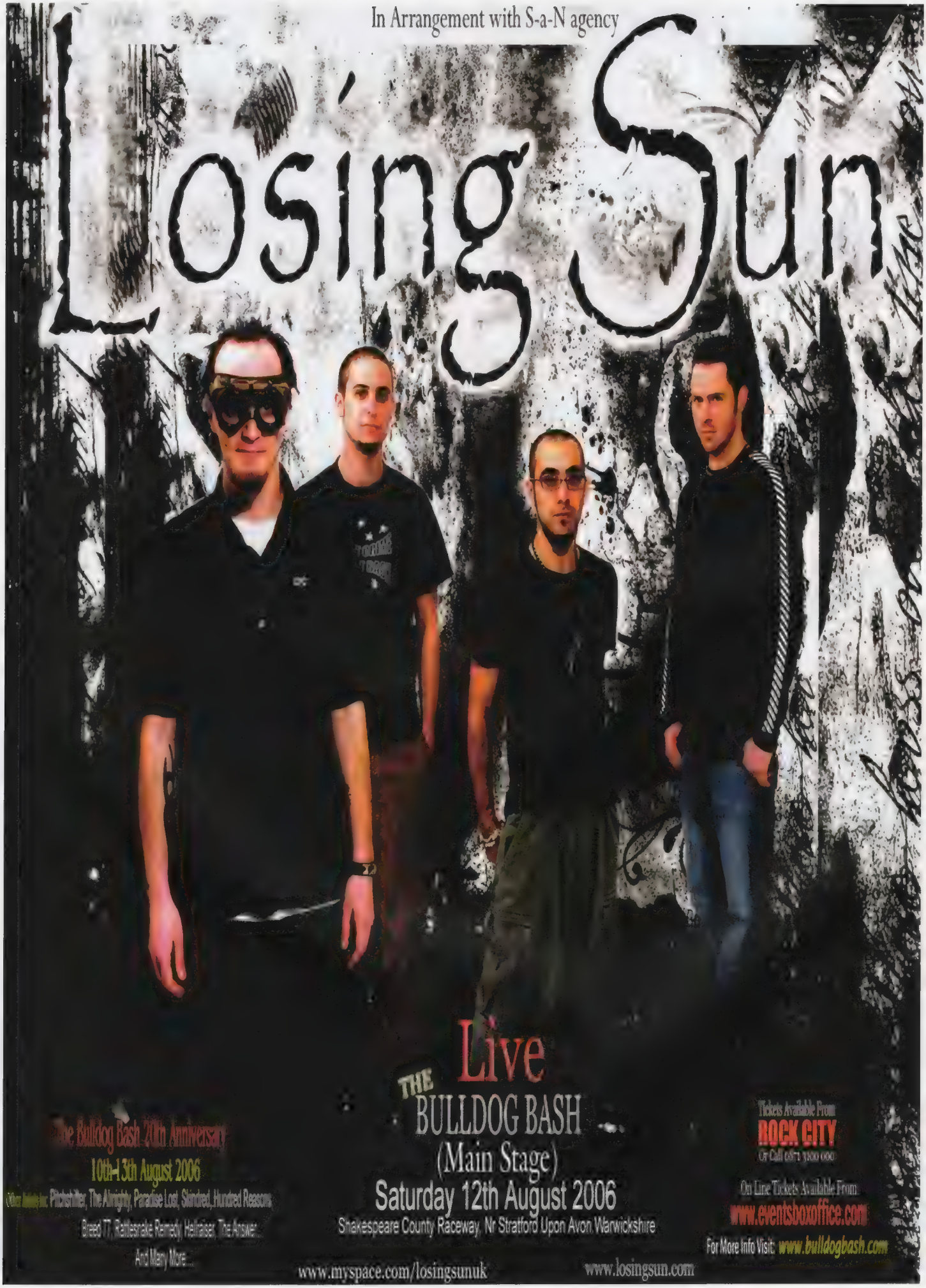

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the SONGS THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

SONNY MOORE, FROM FIRST TO LAST

BILLIE JEAN
MICHAEL JACKSON

"It was the first pop or rock song I was really exposed to. I just remember putting headphones on – my mom got me a Walkman. I remember touching my ears and hearing it, it felt like it was everywhere, like it was coming out of the ceiling. I was like, 'What the fuck?'. It was amazing, it definitely changed my life."
FIND IT: 'Thriller', 1982

FILM
APHEX TWIN

"It has no words, but it's my favourite song ever. I listen to it at least a couple of times a day, and on good days I'll listen to it on repeat. It communicates more than anything that has words. The ending part where there's an amazing keyboard tone is the most beautiful piece of music I've ever heard. It's my sanctuary."
FIND IT: 'Come To Daddy EP', 1997

BE QUIET AND DRIVE (FAR AWAY)
DEFTONES

"That's always been a nostalgic song for me. I remember being younger, before I was in a band, and you kind of have a song with all your friends. That was a song we all listened to. In down time I still go on the internet and try and find different versions, or go on YouTube and try and find live performances."
FIND IT: 'Around The Fur', 1997

EVERYTHING IN ITS RIGHT PLACE
RADIOHEAD

"That's a fucking amazing song, man. I didn't really listen to Radiohead when I first heard this because this was during my strictly punk phase when I was about 13, but my friend burnt me a mix CD and he put this song on it, and it woke me up to Radiohead. It was one of the songs that popped me out of a phase."
FIND IT: 'Kid A', 2000

MY NAME IS JONAS
WEEZER

"This was my early music taste when I started to get into rock, and I bought the 'Blue' album on tape. I was eight years old, and I would go skateboarding with my friend whose older brother listened to Weezer. We'd sneak into his room and play 'My Name Is Jonas' all the time. We'd get brooms out and play air guitar, rocking out to it."
FIND IT: 'Weezer', 1994

BJÖRK
ALL IS FULL OF LOVE

"To me she set a statement, like a holy fuckin' timeless statement. 'All Is Full Of Love' is the truest statement ever. She said that first. And she said it in the most remarkable way. That song is the most amazing thing in the world to me."
FIND IT: 'Homogenic', 1997

BLIND
KORN

"When I was little, about nine or 10 years old, I went to a thrift store, and there were tape cases in this little basket for 25 cents each, and there was a Korn one with 'Blind' and 'Clown' on it, a tape single. I bought it and thought it was the heaviest shit. It really got me in to heavier music from there."
FIND IT: 'Korn', 1994

BLACKENED
METALLICA

"That was my favourite Metallica song. When the guitars swell in, I didn't know how that could be created on a guitar, it was amazing and it got me into playing guitar. Recently I bought a bunch of Metallica DVDs and started listening to that record again. They were the first band I ever saw live, so they have a sentimental thing for me."
FIND IT: '...And Justice For All', 1988

GUILTY PLEASURE!
MOMENTS
DJ TATANA

"I listen to a lot of cheesy trance that a lot of people just vomit over. This is an awesome song. It's terrible, really bad happy hardcore rave music with some guy chanting over it, but I like it."
FIND IT: 'Wildlife', 2003

SONNY ALSO LOVES

NINE INCH NAILS 'March Of The Pigs'
MICHAEL JACKSON 'Black Or White'
SQUAREPUSHER 'Come On My Selector'
KANYE WEST 'Gold Digger'
JANE'S ADDICTION 'Super Hero'
GORILLAZ 'Re-Hash (Come Again)'
SAGE FRANCIS 'Sun V Moon'
BJÖRK 'Where Is The Line'

Sonny Moore: Michael fanatic

Words: Emma Johnston Photo: Jeremy Harris

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